

Fruit Trees and Shrubs

2024 Drought - Inservice

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

Physiological Responses of Fruit Trees to Drought Stress



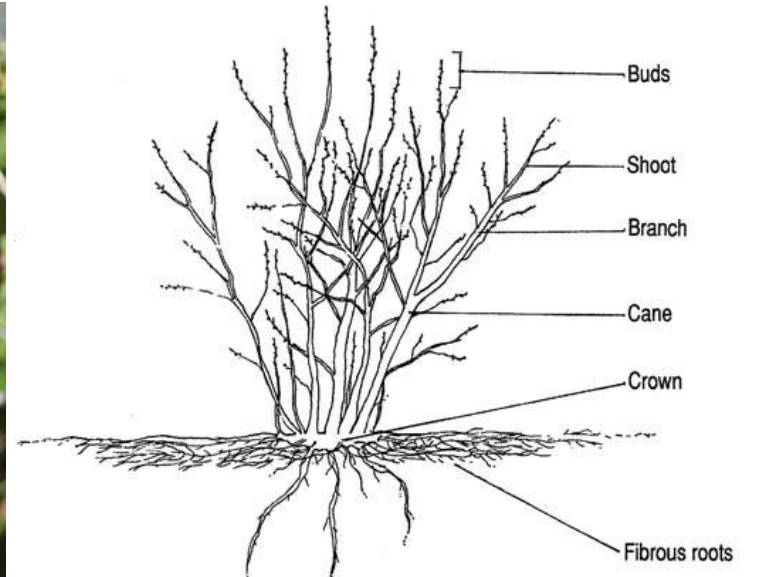
Dwarf and new fruit trees are more susceptible to drought due to their shallow root systems.

- **Leaves:** Stomates close; Leaf chlorophyll contents decreases; leaves wilt; leaf edges turn brown; and leaves drop
- **Branches:** Die back.
- **Fruits:** Stop growing, and some will fall off;
- **Roots:** Stop growing and some die;
- **Trees:** Become less winter hardy, grow poorly and even die.

Grapes



Blueberry Bushes



Blueberry Bushes



Blueberries

CFAES



Blackberries



Picture Courtesy: Carrie Brown,
OSU Extension

Raspberries



**Too little or
too much
water can do
the same to
raspberries!**

Summary

- Know your plants;
- Know your soil drainage and bed types;
- Check on soil moisture levels regularly;
- Check your water quality;
- Water two to three times a week in summer;
- Water in the morning vs evening;
- Mulch as needed based on the plant types.

