

Peach Bud Stages and Critical Temperatures



Fig. 1. Stage '0' (Dormant).



Fig. 2. Stage '1' (First Swell).



Fig. 3. Stage '2' (Calyx Green).



Fig. 4. Stage '3' (Calyx Red).



Fig. 5. Stage '4' (First Pink).



Fig. 6. Stage '5' (First Bloom).



Fig. 7. Stage '6' (Full Bloom).



Fig. 8. Stage '7' (Post-bloom).

Critical temperatures (^oF) for peach fruit buds¹.

Bud Development Stage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ave. Temp. for 10% Kill	18	21	23	25	26	27	28		
Ave. Temp. for 90% Kill	1	5	9	15	21	24	25		

¹ For Elberta. Critical temperatures for some peaches and most nectarines are somewhat higher at the same stage. Temperatures from researchers at Washington St. University's research center, Prosser (1964-76). Mortality is based on 30 minute exposure to the critical temperature given for that level of bud kill. Values are intended for use only as a general guideline of when to begin frost protection efforts. Actual bud kill will vary with the bud stage, cold intensity (temperature), and duration (how long the temperature remains at a given level).