

Northern NY Agricultural Development Program 2016 Project Report: Appendix B: Cherry Tomato Pruning Trials

Figures 3 and 4. Time Spent for Pruning and Training, Time Spent for Harvesting

The 2 graphs below show that from the beginning and throughout the trial, the single leader treatment (blue line) took less time to prune and harvest even though it had 4 more plants per treatment at 12" spacing. The 4 leader treatment (red line), with 5 plants at 18" spacing, took more time to prune, train and harvest due to their dense tangle of growth.

Key: • blue line - single leader • green line – double leader • red line – 4 leaders

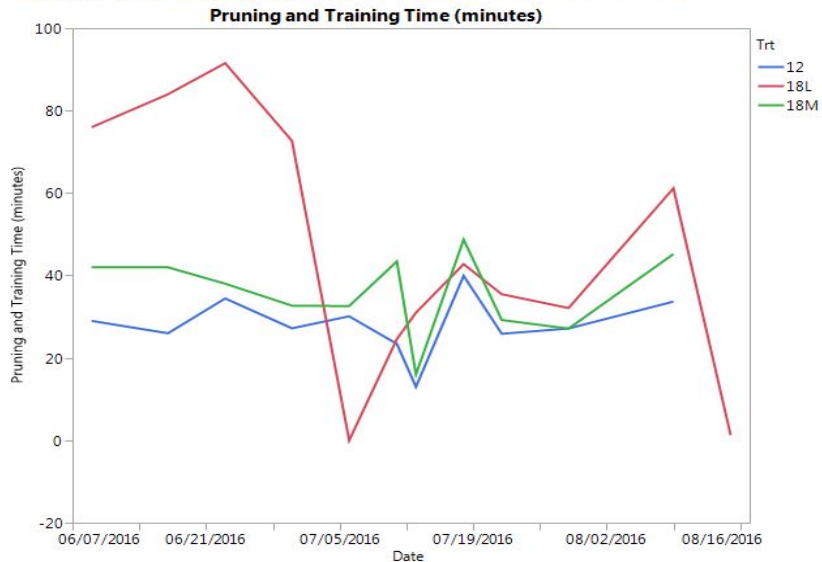


Figure 3. Time spent pruning and training, Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

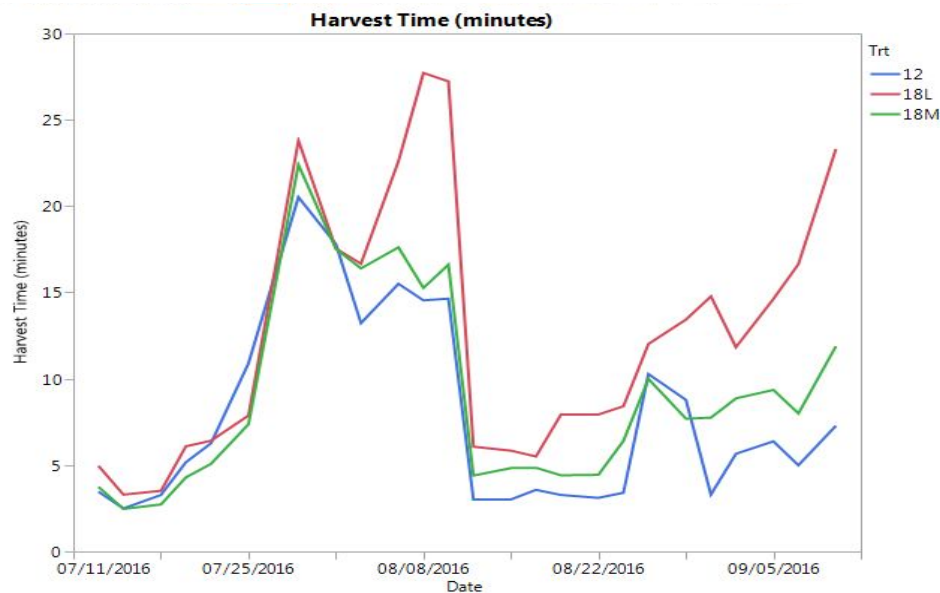


Figure 4. Time spent harvesting, Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

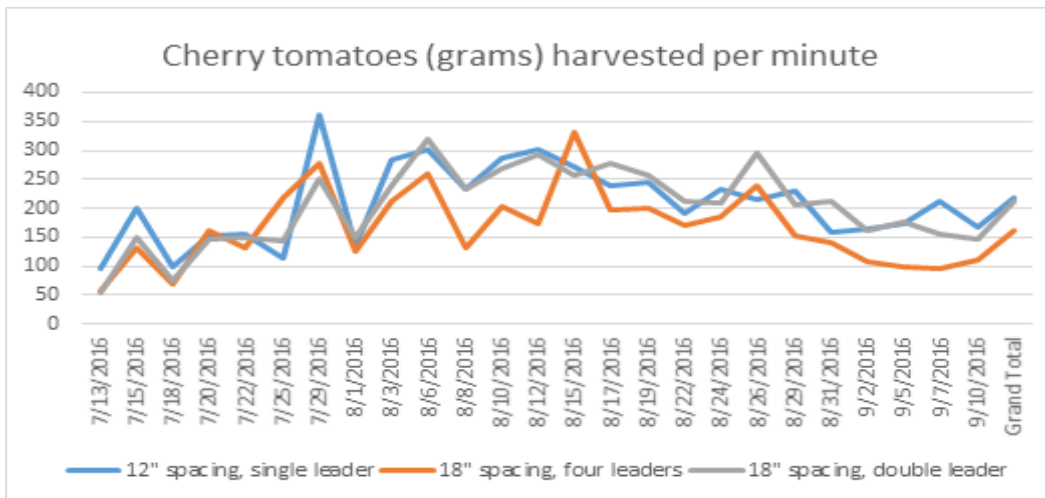


Figure 5. Efficiency of Harvest: This graph shows that the single leader treatment took less time to harvest per minute all season, so that even late in the season, when the tangled 4 leader plants yielded slightly more overall, the efficiency of gathering that harvest was less. This corroborates with the experience and comments from the harvesters as well. Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

Figure 6. The graph at right shows that the most intensive single leader treatment actually took the least amount of time to prune and harvest while the 4-leader treatment took the most time for both pruning and harvesting. Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

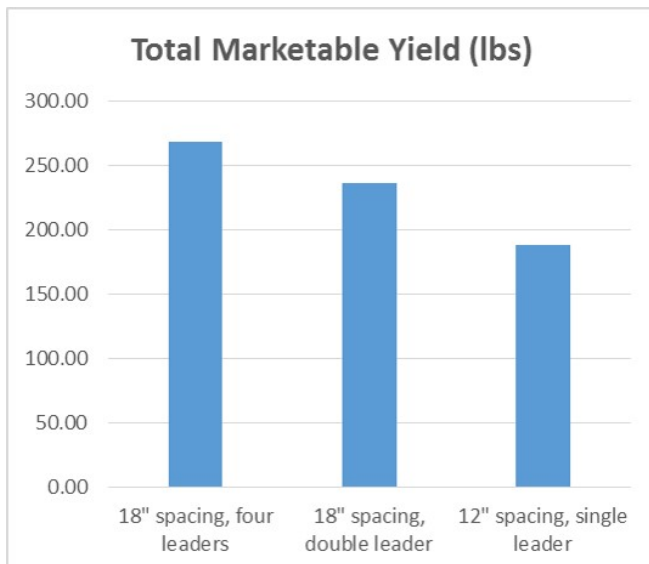
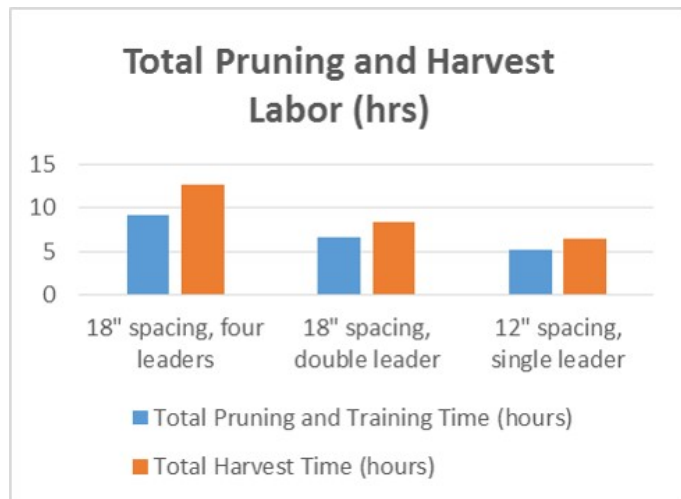


Figure 7. The total marketable yield of the 4-leader treatment was slightly higher than the double leader treatment, but not statistically different. The single leader treatment had the lowest yield. Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

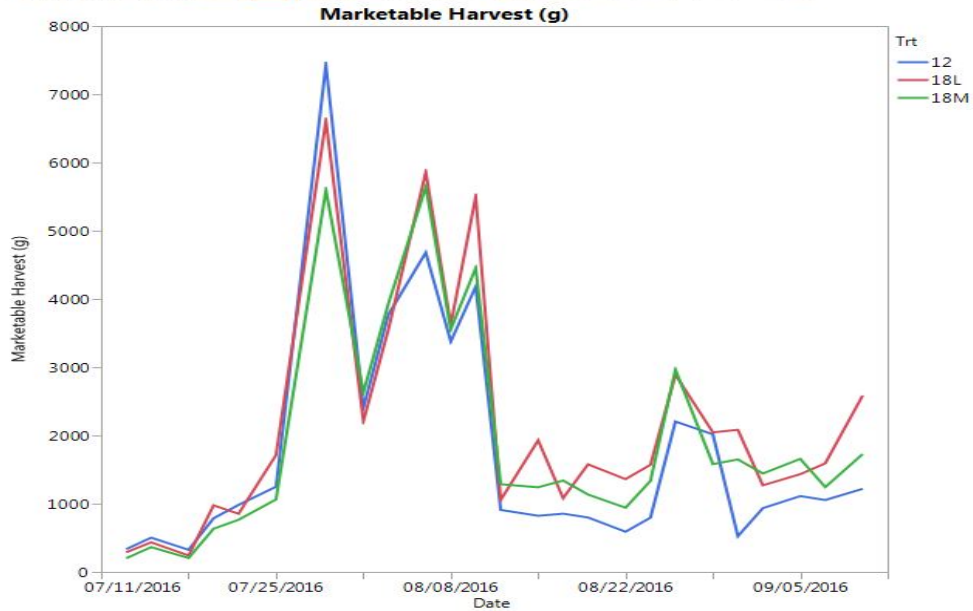


Figure 8. Marketable Harvest Over Time: This graph shows that the single leader (blue line) yielded more than the other treatments earlier in the season when prices are higher and less by the end. This may have been due in part to the rampant growth of the multiple leader blocks that began to overgrow and shade the single leader blocks by late August. Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.

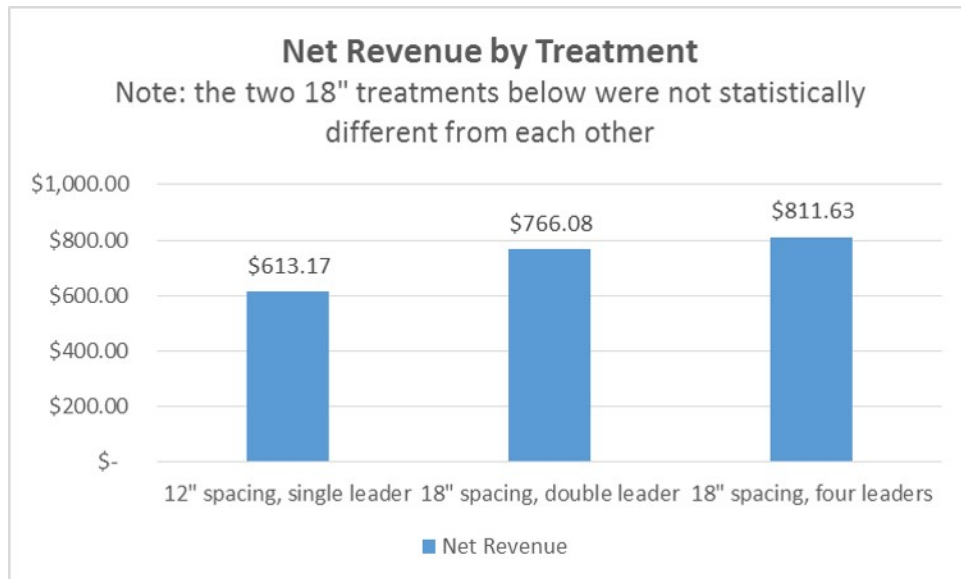


Figure 9. Net Revenue by Treatment, Cherry Tomato Trials, Advancing Vegetable Production in NNY project, 2016.