PrimeArk 45 in Ventura County

Feb 2012, 1st production year
3 tipping times (45 cm from ground) at the ends of April, May and July.

3 mowing times: Dec 1, Feb 1 and March 4.
PrimeArk 45 at UC Hansen REC

- Planted in October 2011 – small plugs
- Only pre-plant fertilizer: 500lbs 18-6-13
- Non-fumigated soil, no pesticides used in-season
- Posts and string for support
- Harvested by Master Gardener crew weekly
May 1, after 1st tipping

June 1, 2nd tipping

July 25, 3rd tipping
New shoots appear 2-3 weeks after tipping
On 25 July plants tipped on June 1 flower and set fruit
September fruiting of earliest tipping
2012 fruit yield at 3 tipping times
2012 fruit yield at 3 tipping times

- **1-May**: 10,000 g/5 plants
- **1-Jun**: 9,000 g/5 plants
- **25-Jul**: 6,000 g/5 plants

Tip date: 42% less
2012 fruit size at 3 mowing times

![Graph showing average berry size over time from April to October 2012.]

- April
- May
- July
2013 fruit yield at 3 tipping times

- 1-May
- 1-Jun
- 25-Jul
2013 fruit yield at 3 mowing times
2013 fruit yield

- 1-May
- 1-Jun
- 25-Jul

Tip date

Mow date
- 1-Dec
- 1-Feb
- 4-Mar

g/5 plants
2013 fruit size

- NO effect of mowing time but, tipping:
  1 May = 8.73 g
  1 June = 8.73 g
  25 July = 8.14 g (significantly smaller)
Regrowth after tipping in July 2013
Problems: Spotted-wing drosophila

- Traps and sanitation only (no sprays)
- Up to 60% fruit unmarketable during warmest weeks of the season
- Cold night in November = no SWD damage
- Weekly harvest – not frequent enough, but all unmarketable fruit removed (fed to chickens)
Problems: 2013 spring cane die-back

No pathogens isolated, 5-10% of canes dried
Problems: strong Santa Ana winds
Other Problems:

- Birds
- Sunburn
- Scaring of fruit (wind and cane movement)
- Occasional red berry mite
- Botrytis after a rain (once in 2 years)
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