Tips for Effective Tree Removal

Controlling Virus Diseases in the Orchard
Keep viruses out in the first place!

• Only buy certified virus-tested planting material
• Buy from reputable nurseries
• Ask questions
  ✓ Are the trees virus-tested?
  ✓ Which viruses were they tested for?
  ✓ What does virus-tested mean?

• Pollinators are just as important as the fruiting variety
  ✓ Pollinators can be symptomless carriers of viruses
The goal is to prevent the spread of virus.
Goal: Prevent the spread of the virus

• Insects transmit many viruses
• Insects tend to be sedentary unless there is a reason to move
• As dying tree limbs start to dry out, insects (and viruses) may move to nearby trees
• Prevent vector (and virus) movement
• Apply good cover spray of broad-spectrum insecticide or miticide 7 days before cutting
Effective Tree Removal

OR...

- Remove trees in winter while insects are dormant
- Remove all the wood before mild spring weather
- Prevent sucker re-growth: Kill or remove as much root as possible using a herbicide or fumigation
How many trees need to be removed?

- Some viruses can be transmitted to adjacent trees by root grafting – this depends on virus, rootstock selection and type of irrigation
- Newly infected tree may take 2-3 years to show symptoms
Effective Tree Removal

- Remove symptomatic trees as soon as they appear
- Carefully monitor nearby trees/blocks over next 2 to 4 seasons