

WHOLE ORCHARD RECYCLING (WOR)



Whole Orchard Recycling is a one-time practice where orchard trees aged 10 years or older are chipped and incorporated back into the soil to improve soil organic matter and nutrient level.

Part of California Farm Bureau's Healthy Soils Block Grant Program, learn more online at: cxbf.com/HSP

This practice aims to:

- Enhance in soil moisture retention and improve infiltration.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increase tree growth, yields, irrigation efficiency, and improve soil health.
- Increase orchard resilience to water stress.
- Increase carbon sequestration in soil.

Criteria:

- This practice cannot overlap with the mulching practice.
- Chips must be evenly distributed across the orchard. If a service provider is contracted, their agreement to spread the wood chips should be in the contract/invoice for verification purposes.
- The Whole Orchard Recycling (WOR) practice should not be implemented in soils with a Soil Organic Matter content exceeding 20%.

Verification Requirements:

- 3-4 geotagged photographs of fields showing tree removal, chipping, spreading and incorporation of wood chips.
- A farm log including chipping details (e.g., tons of chips, size).
- Before and after pictures of orchard.
- Verification when chips are incorporated.

Appendix A: Standard Payment

- \$861.42 per acre.

Implementation Guidelines:

- Only orchards with trees at least 10 years of age are eligible.
- Orchards should be chipped and incorporated on the field in which they were grown, without exporting chips off site.
- Chips must be evenly distributed throughout the orchard.
- Chips must be incorporated into the soil to at least 6 inches depth.