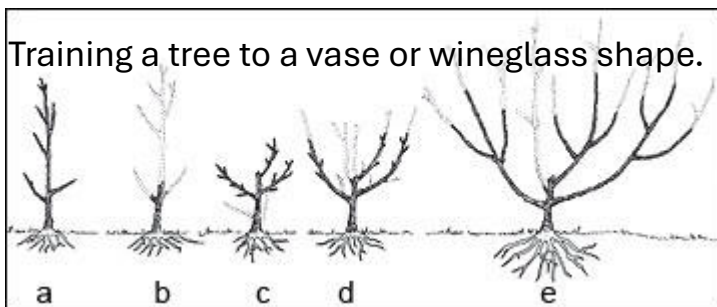
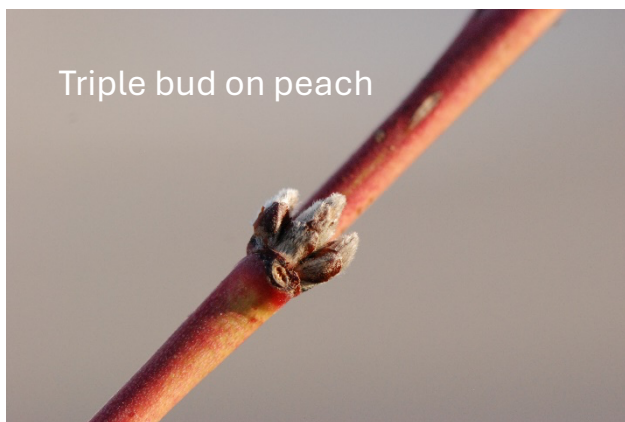


Pruning Fruit trees:

Pruning is traditionally done in winter, but here in Australia, our main pruning should be done in late summer to reduce rampant warm season growth and redirect the trees energy into next year's fruit instead of lots of inedible leafy growth. Cut back anything above reach-height to an outward facing bud, thin out any growth towards the centre and then prune according to tree type: **Apples & pears** are pruned to maintain fruiting spurs; **Peaches** to encourage one year old wood for next year's fruit and **Plums** are pruned to maintain cluster buds and one year old fruit. Winter pruning involves the 'Three D's': Removing, Dead, Diseased and Damaged wood and any major shaping, especially of younger trees.



Fruiting spurs on apples and pears fruit for the life of the tree, so care should be taken to avoid damaging them when picking or pruning, and encouraging their development when pruning.



Pruning in the Orchard:

- Leave 1 branch for scion collection.
- Apples & Pears cut under the bud, leaving 3-4 buds on the branch.
- Stone fruit cut above the bud, leaving 4-5 buds on the branch.