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Shift-Trellises for Better Management of Brambles (*Rubus* cvs.)

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This publication describes several "one-sided shift-trellises" and associated training techniques for summer-fruiting raspberries and blackberries developed at the Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Blackstone, Virginia. These trellises allow producers to effectively manage the placement and configuration of the plant's fruiting zone. Such control can be used either to increase the manual-harvesting efficiency or to improve the physical condition of machine-harvested berries. These trellises and techniques permit spatial isolation of the vegetative and fruiting canopies so that their light environments are improved. Spatial isolation of the two types of canopies with certain of these trellises may contribute to 1) improvements in their microenvironments, 2) better targeting of pesticides, 3) more timely harvesting of mature berries, and 4) prolongation of daily intervals during which fruits remain at moderate temperatures. Thus, proper use of these trellises may inhibit the development of diseases, or fruit-rots, and strengthen the efficacy of integrated insect and disease management programs. Sunscalding of berries was greatly reduced by isolation of berries on the western sides of westward-leaning trellises. Perspective drawings, construction diagrams, color photographs, lists of materials, and costs of materials are presented for two categories of one-sided shift-trellis. The SBF (Stiles Bent Fence) is cheaper to construct and easier to operate than is the SSST (Single-Sided Shift-Trellis), but the latter provides opportunities for larger size of the fruiting zone and more distinct effects upon intra-canopy microenvironments.