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Advisory for the Orchards affected by Snowfall

In view of untimely snowfall in the valley, orchardists of the valley are advised to adhere to following instructions:

1. Drain out excess water from the orchards by making drainage channels.
2. If the fruit trees have tilted, reduce the canopy load by pruning and provide proper support to the plants.
3. If the trees are partially uprooted, slowly pull back the trees to the original position after heavy pruning and provide proper support/staking to the main trunk to prevent further fall/ movement.
4. If the top portion of the tree is broken, slantingly cut the damaged branch 2-3 inches below the broken point and apply Bordeaux /Chaubatia paste on the cut surface.
5. If any scaffold branch is broken and bark is still intact, bring the branch to the original position by tying with a rope and/or using stainless steel nails. Ensure that the union remains tight and apply Bordeaux/Chaubatia paste on the cut surface.
6. If the main trunk is split in to two or three parts it can be treated the same way as above.
7. If roots have become exposed/naked, immediately cover the roots with soil to avoid further damage.
8. Fruits still on the tree be harvested immediately for sale/storage.
9. Clear the snow fallen on heaped harvested fruit in orchards and store the fruits under proper cover (in sheds) to prevent it from frost injury.
10. Maintain orchard sanitation by removing debris and damaged plant parts and collecting fallen fruits, leaves and twigs and dispose them of by burying/composting.

Sd/-

Director Extension