

Washington State Tree Fruit Association
116th Annual Meeting & NW Hort Expo

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Future*



Washington State
Tree Fruit Association

Virtual Online Platform
December 7–9, 2020

wstfa.org/annual-meeting

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2020 has been a year like no other, and we hope we never see another one like it!

We are fortunate that our industry was recognized as essential and that our businesses have been able to stay open. Low cash flow is better than no cash flow.

Many businesses in other sectors have been forced to close their doors forever due to COVID-19.

We all need food for life, and we are part of this process. Feel fortunate. But being essential does not mean business as usual.

The Washington State Tree Fruit Association, North Central Washington Fieldman's Association and the Yakima Pom Club have had to face this reality and move the 116th Annual Meeting and NW Hort Expo to a virtual platform for the first time. Prerecorded and live meeting content with an interactive trade show is planned for our scheduled dates of December 7-9.

The annual hort show is a place to learn from the experts and socialize with friends, business associates and colleagues to hear the latest research, ideas and opinions. This is more difficult online, but we can still have much of this experience in the virtual format. Special thanks to everyone on the planning committee whose advice and support has helped make this vision a reality. You all are amazing!

With the first ever virtual hort show and expo, you will be able to use your favorite device to watch live and prerecorded talks and ask questions while sitting at your desk, in your truck, in your orchard or wherever you are as long as you have an internet connection.

There will be challenges and opportunities for us, and we hope we can focus on the opportunities and overcome the challenges to make this a great experience for all. Kind of like farming!

We will hear from speakers and panels on the latest developments in familiar areas like pest management, technology, food safety and more. Our Batjer speaker will address a new topic: how COVID-19 disrupted transportation and distribution and what that will mean in the future. We will also have a keynote speaker on how the retail environment is changing.

We have an amazing industry with amazing people.

Special thanks to the staff of the WSTFA and everyone involved in the planning process to make this virtual meeting a reality. They have put in many hours of their time, and their passion and dedication shows. We should feel proud to have these people on our team.



Gary Snyder
WSTFA Annual Meeting
Committee Chair

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

WSTFA has worked with agencies and the legislature on our industry’s response and helped our growers and packers to adjust and comply with new COVID requirements we are required to follow to stay in compliance and keep growing and packing food.

Our industry was not set up with 6-foot spacing in place, but we have learned how to adapt and conform to the regulations we need to follow. Will this be part of our new standard operating procedures? Time will tell.

We have learned how to adapt our previous “Pre-COVID-19” practices to our current experiment living with COVID-19, and we will see what the future brings us “Post-COVID-19.” Our industry has adapted to traumatic change in the past, and we can do so again.

We should be proud of how our industry responded to this crisis, doing our best to protect workers while providing a steady supply of food to the world. Without the cooperation and hard work of everyone in our industry to adapt to the evolving regulations, this success would not have been achieved. We need to praise all our employees — who are far too often overlooked — for their vital contributions to our society.

Save the date for the week of December 7th so you have the opportunity to log on and attend the 116th Annual Meeting and NW Hort Expo.

Let’s keep working together today to make for a better tomorrow and a fruitful future.

Gary Snyder

2020 WSTFA Annual Meeting Committee Chair

WSTFA Mission Statement

The WSTFA’s mission is to add value to all segments of the tree fruit industry through educational programs and conferences, statistics to enable growers and packers to plan for market opportunities, and engagement in Washington State government affairs to help address the market uncertainty driven by government policy.



Ag is constantly evolving. So are we.

The businesses we finance – in farming, ranching, forestry and fishing – are ever changing. We embrace agriculture’s dynamic nature and operate on the leading edge, interpreting trends, pitfalls and opportunities. When it comes to managing change, we’re right there with you.

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Sponsor: Good Fruit Grower

SESSION: FUNCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR TREE FRUIT NOW: LABOR TRACKING AND ORCHARD AUTOMATION

Labor Tracking Product Introduction

FieldClock, PickTrace, AgCode

Good Fruit Grower Article:

www.goodfruit.com/phone-apps-automate-labor-management/

Sensing: Can We Trust What We Measure?

Climate: Dave Brown, AgWeatherNet

Water status: Steve Good, OSU

Nutrition: Bernardita Sallato, WSU

Full Automation of Picking, Spraying, Pruning: Are We Close?

FFRobotics: Avi Kahani

Smart sprayers: Lav Khot, WSU-CPASS

Automated pruning: Manoj Karkee, WSU-CPASS

SESSION: PEST MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES THAT BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN CONVENTIONAL AND ORGANIC PRODUCTION

Codling Moth Behavior Around Pheromones, Monitoring, Effect of Weather on Control Expectations, and Managing CM to Zero

Don Thomson: Pacific Biocontrol

Update on Resistance Screening of Codling Moth to Granulosis Virus

Don Thomson: Pacific Biocontrol

Improving Soil Structure in Organic Production

Gary Johnson: Wilbur-Ellis

Soil Science in Orchard Production

Bernadita Sallato: WSU IAREC Prosser

Improving Pest Control Through Better Coverage

Gwen Hoeheisel: WSU Extension

Utility of Beneficial Nematodes for Codling Moth Control

Diana Londono: BASF

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Washington State Tree Fruit Association
116th Annual Meeting & NW Hort Expo

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For a Fruitful Future*

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Washington State
Tree Fruit Association

Virtual Online Platform
December 7–9, 2020

**AGRICULTURE IS ESSENTIAL,
FOR A FRUITFUL FUTURE**

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: *AgroFresh*

Session Manager: *Gary Snyder, C&O Nursery, Annual Meeting Chair*

- 8:00 **Welcome** – *Gary Snyder, Annual Meeting Chairman, & Sean Gilbert, WSTFA Board Chairman*
- 8:10 **WSTFA Update** – *Jon DeVaney, President, Washington State Tree Fruit Association*
- 8:30 **41st Batjer Address** – *Dr. Eric Jessup, Associate Research Professor, Washington State University*
- 9:15 **USApple Association Update** – *Jim Bair, President & CEO, US Apple Association*
- 9:35 **Washington State University Update** – *Dr. Kirk Schulz, President, Washington State University & Dr. André-Denis Wright, Dean of CAHNRS, Washington State University*
- 9:55 **Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center Update** – *Chad Kruger, Director, TFREC & CSANR*
- 10:15 **Keynote Speaker** – *Phil Lempert, Supermarket Guru*
- 11:05 **Panel** – *Moderator, Brian Focht, Manager, The Marketing Associations*

WSTFA LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Host: *Jon DeVaney, President, Washington State Tree Fruit Association*
Guest Speaker: *Washington State House Republican Panel*

INDUSTRY CELEBRATION

1:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: *Northwest Farm Credit Services*

Session Manager: *Jordan Matson, Matson Fruit Company, Annual Meeting Vice Chair*

- 1:00 **Board & Commission Nominations** – *WSDA*
- 1:15 **Latino Leadership Award**
- 1:20 **Silver Pear Award**
- 1:25 **Silver Apple Award**
- 1:30 **Washington State Tree Fruit Distinguished Service Award**
- 1:35 **Good Fruit Grower, Grower of the Year** – *Shannon Dininny, Managing Editor, Good Fruit Grower*
- 1:40 **Washington Apple Education Foundation** – *Jennifer Witherbee, Executive Director, WAEF*

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COMMUNICATING DURING A CRISIS

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Session Sponsors: Northwest Farm Credit Services

Session Manager: Jon DeVaney, President, Washington State Tree Fruit Association

- 2:00 WSDA Update – Derek Sandison, Director, Washington State Department of Agriculture
- 2:10 Northwest Horticultural Council Response – Mark Powers, President, Northwest Horticultural Council
- 2:20 WSTFA Response – Action Mary
- 2:40 Save Family Farming Response – Gerald Barron, Agincourt Strategies, LLC

RESEARCH NEWS FLASH

3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: Ceres Imaging

Session Manager: Suzanne Bishop, Allan Brothers

- 3:00 Research News Flash Welcome and Introduction – Suzanne Bishop

TREE FRUIT BREEDING

- 3:04 Genotypic Variation in Sweet Cherry Cold Tolerance – Jonathan Magby
- 3:10 Understanding Genetics of Fruit Cracking and Firmness in Sweet Cherry – Wesley Crump

- 3:16 Q&A: Tree Fruit Breeding

TREE FRUIT PHYSIOLOGY - PART 1

- 3:20 Trunk Diameter Fluctuations as Water Stress Indicator in Sweet Cherry Trees – Victor Blanco
- 3:26 Fruit Hydraulic Conductance of 'Gala' and 'Honeycrisp' Apple – Nadia A. Valverdi
- 3:32 Impact of Wildfire Smoke on Leaf Gas Exchange – A Case Study on Crabapple – Stefan Roeder
- 3:38 Mineral Composition in Apples with and without Green Spot – Bernardita Sallato
- 3:44 Q&A: Tree Fruit Physiology - Part 1

- 3:50 BREAK

TREE FRUIT PHYSIOLOGY - PART 2

- 4:00 Root Growth Differences Between M9-Nic 29 and G41. – Juan Munguia
- 4:06 Rootstock Choice Strongly Affects Bitter Pit Incidence in Honeycrisp – Lee Kalcsits
- 4:12 Rootstock and Crop Load Effects on 'Honeycrisp' Fruit Quality – Claudia Baldassi

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4:18 WA 38 Performance on Geneva Rootstock Trial – Erica Casagrande Biasuz

4:24 Q&A: Tree Fruit Physiology - Part 2

POSTHARVEST PATHOLOGY AND FOOD SAFETY

4:30 Efficacy of Some Materials Used for Organic Disease Management – Achour Amiri

4:36 Characterization of the Relationship between Postharvest Fungal Rot and Indicator Organism Die-Off Rates on Gala Apples During Eleven Months of Storage – Alexis Hamilton

4:42 Prevalence of Listeria spp. on Food Contact Surfaces of Washington State Apple Packinghouses – Blanca Ruiz-Llacsahuanga

4:48 Evaluation of Physicochemical Characteristics of Recirculating Water Systems in Apple Packinghouse Operations – Kory Anderson

4:54 Q&A: Postharvest Pathology and Food Safety



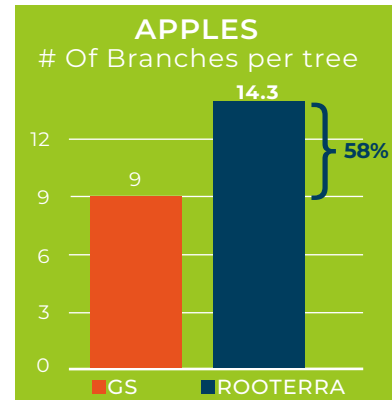
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INVASIVE PESTS AND
EMERGING DISEASES

8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Session Sponsor: Valent

Co-Session Managers: Garrett Bishop, Quality Services, G.S. Long Company,
& Tobin Northfield, Assistant Professor of Entomology, WSU

8:00 **Welcome** – Garrett Bishop, Quality Services, G.S. Long Company, &
Tobin Northfield, Assistant Professor of Entomology, WSU

8:08 **The Giant Hornet (*Vespa mandarinia*) in the Pacific** – Chris Looney,
Entomology Laboratory, Washington State Department of Agriculture

8:16 **Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) in the Pacific Northwest** –
James Hepler, Entomology Ph.D. Candidate (Beers Lab), WSU

8:24 **Invasive Species: Everything Old is New Again** – Elizabeth Beers,
Professor & Entomologist, WSU

8:32 **Q&A Session with Invasive Pests Speakers** – Moderator: Tobin
Northfield, WSU – Speakers: Chris Looney, WSDA; James Hepler,
WSU; & Elizabeth Beers, WSU

8:40 **X-disease Phytoplasma, Little Cherry Virus and X-disease Vector
Management** – Scott Harper, Clean Plant Center NW; Tobin
Northfield, Assistant Professor of Entomology, WSU; Louie
Nottingham, Research Assistant Professor of Entomology, WSU; &
Tianna DuPont, Tree Fruit Extension Specialist, WSU

9:25 **Panel Session with Q&A: X-disease Phytoplasma, Little Cherry
Virus and X-disease Vector** – Moderator: Garrett Bishop, G.S. Long
Company – Speakers: Scott Harper, Clean Plant Center NW; Tobin
Northfield, WSU; Louie Nottingham, WSU; & Tianna DuPont, WSU

SPANISH LANGUAGE SESSION I

10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: FirstFruits Farms

Co-Session Managers: Carolina Torres, Associate Professor of Horticulture,
Washington State University TFREC & Bradley Farrar, Education and
Technical Assistance Unit Supervisor, Washington State Department of
Agriculture.

10:00 **Introduction** – Carolina Torres, Associate Professor of Horticulture,
Washington State University TFREC; Bradley Farrar, Education and
Technical Assistance Unit Supervisor, Washington State Department
of Agriculture.

10:05 **Analysis of Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Inspection results
/ Analisis de resultados en inspecciones de la Ley de protección al
Trabajador (WPS)** – Jaime Ramon, Pesticide Education Specialist and
WPS Compliance Inspector, WSDA

10:25 **Airblast sprayer calibration and configuration. Synopsis of the
WSDA Technical Assistance Program / Calibración y configuración
de aspersores de ráfaga de aire. Sinopsis del programa de asistencia
técnica de WSDA** – Jaime Ramon, Pesticide Education Specialist and
WPS Compliance Inspector, WSDA



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11:05 **Adapt and Change Faster: How the Most Innovative Fruit Companies and their Key Hispanic Employees can Capitalize on Today's Rapidly Evolving and Competitive Economy / Adáptese y cambie pronto: Como las compañías frutícolas más innovadoras y sus principales empleados Hispánicos pueden capitalizar en la economía competitiva y cambiante de hoy** – Mario Miranda Sazo, *Cultural Practices Specialist, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell University*

11:45 **BREAK / RECESO**

12:00 **Little Cherry Virus control and recommendations for the Pacific Northwest / Control y recomendaciones para la enfermedad de la cereza pequeña (LCD) en el Pacífico Noroeste** – Bernardita Sallato, *Tree Fruit Extension Specialist, Prosser-IAREC, Washington State University*

12:30 **Risks of heat illness and poor air quality/ Riesgos de enfermedades por calor y mala calidad del aire** – Teresa Andrews, *Education and Outreach Specialist, UC Davis, Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety*

RESEARCH NEWS FLASH

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: Ceres Imaging

Session Manager: Suzanne Bishop, Allan Brothers

10:00 **Resesarch News Flash: Welcome and Introduction** – Suzanne Bishop

PEST MANAGEMENT

10:05 **Linking microbial taxa with function in artificially structured apple rhizosphere microbiomes** – Tracey Somera

10:11 **Efficacy of some conventional and organic materials to control apple powdery mildew in Washington** – Keith van den Broek

10:17 **Fire blight (*Erwinia amylovora*) susceptibility of crabapple (*Malus* spp.) cultivars and selections** – Ryan Sheick

10:23 **Q&A: Pest Management**

NEW AG TECHNOLOGY

10:30 **Drone based visible range and multispectral imaging toward rapid detection of powdery mildew infestation in apple orchard** – Abhilash Chandel

10:36 **Intelligent sprayer optimized for modern apple orchard systems** – Anura Rathnayake

10:42 **PestiSafe/PestiSerguro in your Hand, on your Phone: Pesticide Label Safety Information is Spanish & English Plus Easy Label Access** – Kit Galvin

10:48 **Automated flower count and density estimation for selective blossom thinning in tree fruit** – Uddhav Bhattarai

10:54 **In the search of sorting indexes for sun-stressed apples using hyperspectral images** – Rene Mogollon

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11:00 Q&A: New Ag Technology

11:06 BREAK

WORKER SAFETY

11:15 **Basta!: Developing a Culturally Tailored, Multi-Level Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Video and Toolkit with and for Farmworkers and other Agricultural Stakeholders** – *Dennise Drury*

11:21 **PestiSeguro/PestiSafe on your Phone, in your Hand: Pesticide Label Safety in Spanish & English Plus Easy Label Access.** – *Kit Galvin*

11:27 **Heat Education and Awareness Tools (HEAT) for identifying, preventing, and treating heat illness in agricultural workers** – *Jennifer Krenz*

11:33 **Smoke Monitoring for Agricultural Safety and Health** – *Edward Kasner*

11:39 Q&A: Worker Safety

11:45 **Closing Remarks** – *Suzanne Bishop*

FUNCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR TREE FRUIT NOW: LABOR

TRACKING AND ORCHARD AUTOMATION 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Session Sponsor: *KeyBank*

Co-Session Managers: *Cody Bishop, Orchard Technology & Process Manager, Price Cold Storage & Packing, Inc. & Ines Hanrahan, Executive Director, WTFRC*

1:00 **Welcome** – *Cody Bishop, Orchard Technology & Process Manager, Price Cold Storage & Packing, Inc. & Ines Hanrahan, Executive Director, WTFRC*

1:05 **Labor Tracking: practicable utilization of available software systems** – *Cody Bishop, Price Cold Storage & Packing, Inc.*

1:20 **Labor Tracking** – *Moderator: Ines Hanrahan, Executive Director, WTFRC – Panel: TBA*

1:50 **The Smart Orchard Pilot Project** – *Moderator: Ines Hanrahan, Executive Director, WTFRC – Panel: Steve Mantle, Innov8 Ag; Bernardita Sallato, WSU; Lav Khot, WSU-CPASS; & Shawn Tweedy, Columbia Reach*

2:25 **Closing Remarks**

BREAK

2:30 P.M.

PEAR SESSION

3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: *Corteva*

Session Manager: *Doug Gibson, Mount Adams Fruit*

**Speakers and panel TBA*

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SPANISH LANGUAGE SESSION II

8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Session Sponsor: *Stemilt*

Co-Session Managers: *Leo Gonzalez, Orchard Level Food Safety Coordinator, Domex Superfresh Growers; Raquel Gomez, Scientific Assistant, Washington State University TFREC*

8:00 **Introduction** – *Leo Gonzalez, Orchard Level Food Safety Coordinator, Domex Superfresh Growers; Raquel Gomez, Scientific Assistant, Washington State University TFREC*

8:05 **COVID-19 management in the tree fruit industry / Manejo de COVID-19 en la industria frutícola** – *Dr. Maria P. Lemos, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division, Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center*

8:45 **Tree vigor and yield in apples / Manejo de vigor en huertas y su relación al rendimiento** – *Jenny Bolivar, Tree Fruit Extension Information Technology Transfer Specialist, Wenatchee-TFREC, WSU Extension*

9:00 **Stop! Prevent sexual harassment in agriculture / ¡Basta! Prevenga el acoso sexual en la agricultura** – *Elizabeth Torres, Research Coordinator, Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center, University of Washington*

9:15 **Water and Nutrients, an important balance for high productivity on fruit trees /** – *Nadia Valverdi, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Tree Fruit Physiology, Washington State University*

9:30 **Latino leadership award / Premio del liderazgo Latino**

PEST MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES THAT BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN CONVENTIONAL AND ORGANIC PRODUCTION

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Session Sponsor: *Semios*

Session Manager: *Garrett Henry, Douglas Fruit*

9:50 **Welcome** – *Garrett Henry, Douglas Fruit*

10:00 **Update on Current Research into Novel Codling Moth Control Tactics** – *Betsy Beers, WSU TFREC Wenatchee*

10:25 **Supplementing and Enhancing Biological Control of Key Insect Pests** – *Rebecca Schmidt Jeffreis, USDA Wapato*

10:50 **Earwigs: Pest or Predator** – *Robert Orpet, WSU*

11:15 **Organic Options for Fire Blight Control** – *Ken Johnson*

11:40 **Q&A Session** – *Brad Higbee, Trece, Inc R&D; Dain Craver, KDS Orchards; & Darrin Belton, Washington Fruit & Produce.*

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**PREPARE, DON'T SCARE: KEEPING
ESSENTIAL WORKFORCE SAFE**

1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Co-Session Managers: Faith Critzer, Associate Professor, Washington State University, & Jacqui Gordon Nunez, Director of Training, Education & Member Services, Washington State Tree Fruit Association

- 1:00 **Introduction** – Faith Critzer, Associate Professor, WSA & Jacqui Gordon, Director of Training, Education & Member Services, WSTFA
- 1:05 **Fighting Invisible Foes: Micro Basics from On-Farm Applications** – Faith Critzer, Associate Professor, Washington State University
- 1:10 **Your Food Safety Journey: The Mountain is High, But the Path is Well-Trodden** – John Hanlin, Vice President Food Safety Global Food & Beverage, Ecolab (5 min recap)
- 1:15 **Health and Hygiene: Why Do We Care?** – Jacqui Gordon, Director of Training, Education & Member Services, Washington State Tree Fruit Association
- 1:20 **Q&A**
- 1:35 **Adapting for safety and health in warp speed: Lessons from the tree fruit industry in 2020** – Panel: Sarah Rasmussen, Food Safety & Compliance Team Lead, Gilbert Orchards; Jeremy Leavitt, Food Safety & Compliance Director, Borton Fruit & Sons; & Ben Barnes, Operation Manager / Food Safety Manager, Kershaw Fruit & Cold Storage

**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PESTICIDE UPDATE/TRAINING**

2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Session Manager: Tom Hoffmann, WSDA Pesticide Management, WSDA

- 2:00 **Update on the WSDA Compliance Pesticide Program** – Christopher Sutherland, Senior Pesticide Compliance Investigator, WSDA
- 2:10 **WSDA Pesticide Drift Observation Project** – Christopher Sutherland, Senior Pesticide Compliance Investigator, WSDA
- 2:25 **What to Expect When the WSDA Comes A-Knocking** – Christopher Sutherland, Senior Pesticide Compliance Investigator, WSDA
- 2:40 **Common Mistakes Observed During Inspections and Investigations: Perspective of a WSDA Pesticide Compliance Investigator** – Christopher Sutherland, Senior Pesticide Compliance Investigator, WSDA
- 2:50 **The Worker Protection Standard: After 26 Years . . . Still Not Well Understood** – Robert Sausedo, Senior Pesticide Compliance Investigator, WSDA

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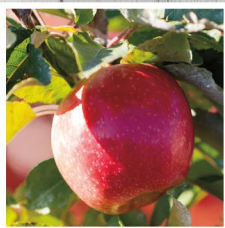
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