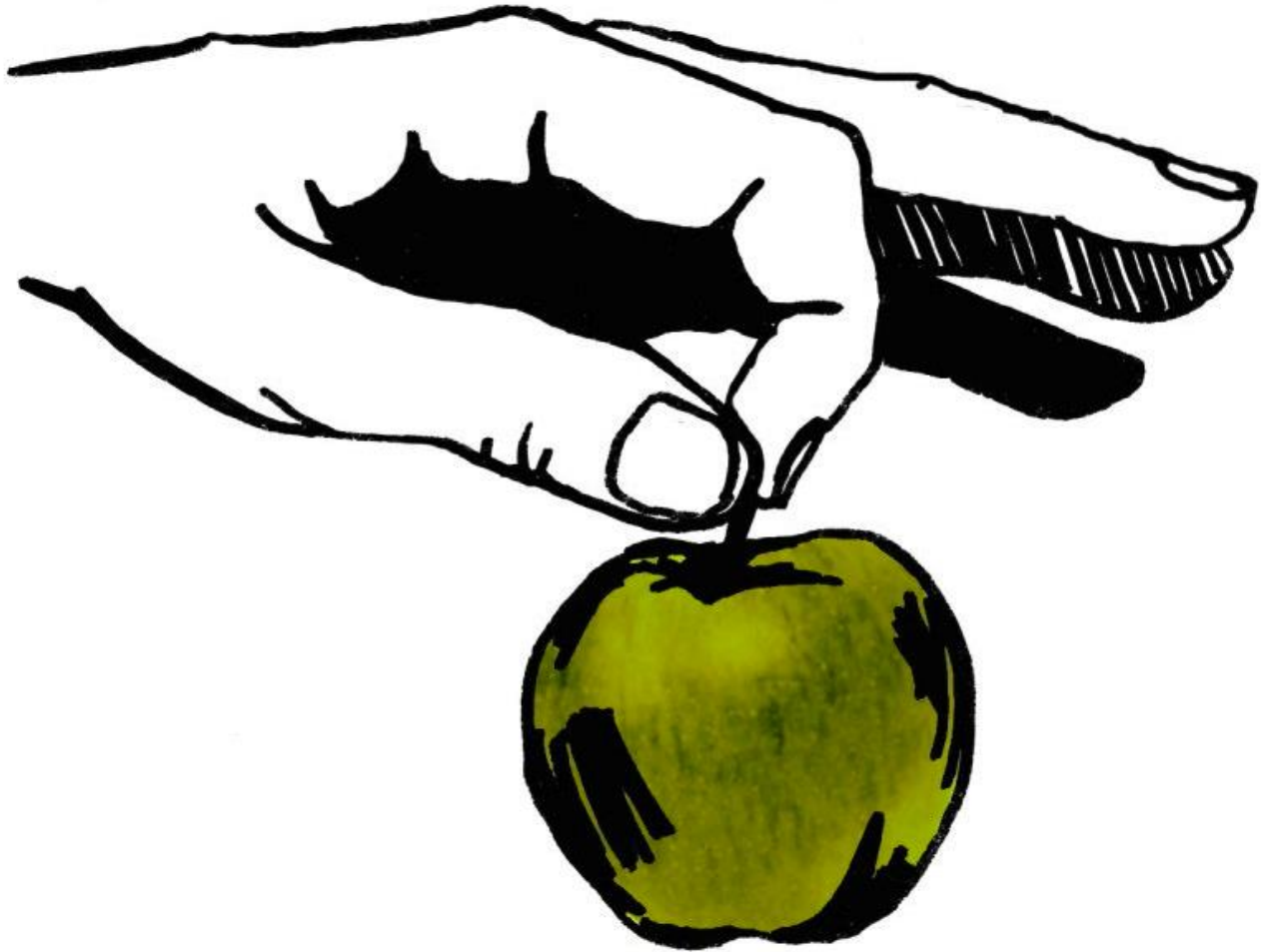


Les Fruits Défendus



Pre-pick Guide

June 2019 version

Pickleleaders represent the values of the collective and therefore we ask that your actions reflect the values of the project.



Les Fruits Défendus, 2019

© 2019 by the collective **Les Fruits Défendus**. The Harvest Guide is licensed under the *Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 3.0 International License (CC BY-SA)*. This license allows you to remix, tweak, and build upon our work for any purposes, as long as you credit **Les Fruits Défendus** and license your new creations under the same terms. To view a copy of the license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>.

Table of Contents

Pre-pick Guide	1
Table of Contents.....	3
Support for Pickleaders.....	4
Life Cycle of a Pick on <i>Saskatoon</i> , our database.....	4
Planning a Harvest	6
Accessing Saskatoon	6
Choose the trees you want to pick	6
Contact the tree owner to schedule the pick.....	11
Find a beneficiary organization that will receive the fruit	14
Publish the pick and assemble a team	15
Annex A – Beneficiary organizations	18
Annex C – Fruit ripeness	19
Apples:	19
Saskatoon Berries:	19
Cherries:	19
Plums:	19
Grapes.....	19
Pears	20

Support for Pickleaders

New pickleaders are paired with a member of the core, called a “fruit buddy”. He or she is your primary contact person for questions related to organizing and leading picks.

We also ask our community of pick-leaders to help support each other by sharing questions and expertise through LFD’s closed Facebook group for pick-leaders:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1915569122052107/>.

For those not using Facebook, we encourage pick leaders to exchange contacts (phone and/or email).

If you need to reach the core for general questions, please write to info@lesfruitsdefendus.org. For urgent, significant technical issues regarding Saskatoon, please contact tech@lesfruitsdefendus.org. We’ll do our best to respond to your inquiries as soon as possible.

In case of emergency involving personal safety during a pick, please call 911.

Life Cycle of a Pick on *Saskatoon*, our database.

As a pick-leader, you will be using Saskatoon to help plan your picks. Saskatoon shows a list of available “harvests”, each of which corresponds to a potential harvest of a fruit tree or vine.

Each year, tree-owners from our community complete an online form indicating their interest in having us harvest their fruit. Consequently, Saskatoon creates a new “harvest” (a.k.a harvest record) for that year. Additionally, a given property may have more than one type of fruit tree (or vine), each with its own distinct harvesting period. Each tree or vine can yield fruit over a period of several weeks, thus allowing more than one harvest to be scheduled for that tree/vine. It’s for these reasons that we use the term “harvest” in Saskatoon, rather than “tree”. These “harvests” will help you plan your harvesting events.

Each stage of planning and fulfilling a harvest event is referred to as a harvest “Status”. Here’s an overview of each harvest status:

To be confirmed: [This is an obsolete status. Please ignore.]

Orphan: The tree-owner gave us the “okay” to harvest their tree this season, but no pickleader has selected it yet.

Adopted: A pickleader has assigned his/herself to the tree.

Date scheduled: A pickleader has confirmed a harvest date with the tree owner. The pick is published publicly in the calendar so that volunteers can sign up.

- Ready:** The team of pickers has been confirmed, and subscription to the pick is closed (i.e., it is no longer possible to sign up for the pick using the calendar).
- Succeeded:** The fruit has been successfully picked.
- Cancelled:** Sadly, the tree or vine will not be harvested this year. Notes detailing why this is the case will be recorded in Saskatoon.

Planning a Harvest

The simplest, fastest way to start organizing a harvest event is to adopt an “Orphan Harvest” in Saskatoon. This section will show you how to get started.

NOTE: If you’d like to choose from a larger list of possible trees in our database, please consult Annex D (link available on Saskatoon). Annex D will show you how to identify and contact tree-owners in our database who’ve shown past interest in our collective but, haven’t yet let us know whether we may harvest at their property this year. If you decide to use the approach explained in Annex D, please bear in mind that the process for choosing a tree will be more complicated than simply adopting an orphan harvest, and it will require additional responsibility on your part.

Accessing Saskatoon

Saskatoon is the online database that we developed to coordinate picks. To access Saskatoon, please go to saskatoon.lesfruitsdefendus.org. Pickleaders need a user name and password to log in to this database. Only certain components of the database are accessible to the general public, i.e. the pick calendar.

If you need a username or password, contact your fruit buddy or someone from the collective’s core (at info@lesfruitsdefendus.org) to have one created for you.

Choose the trees you want to pick

- 1) Log in by clicking the “Login” button in the top right-hand corner of the screen. Enter your login credentials when prompted to do so (**Fig.3**).

https://saskatoon.lesfruitsdefendus.org/login

Login Form

nazmus.syed@gmail.com

Login Lost your password?

Saskatoon - Les Fruits Défendus

©2019 Some Rights Reserved. Saskatoon is Free Software.
Free as in Freedom.

Fig.3

- Once you have accessed the main page of Saskatoon (the “Dashboard”), select the “Harvests” tab on the left-hand side of the page (**Fig.4**). This is where you will find a list of harvests that are available to pickleaders at that particular moment in time.

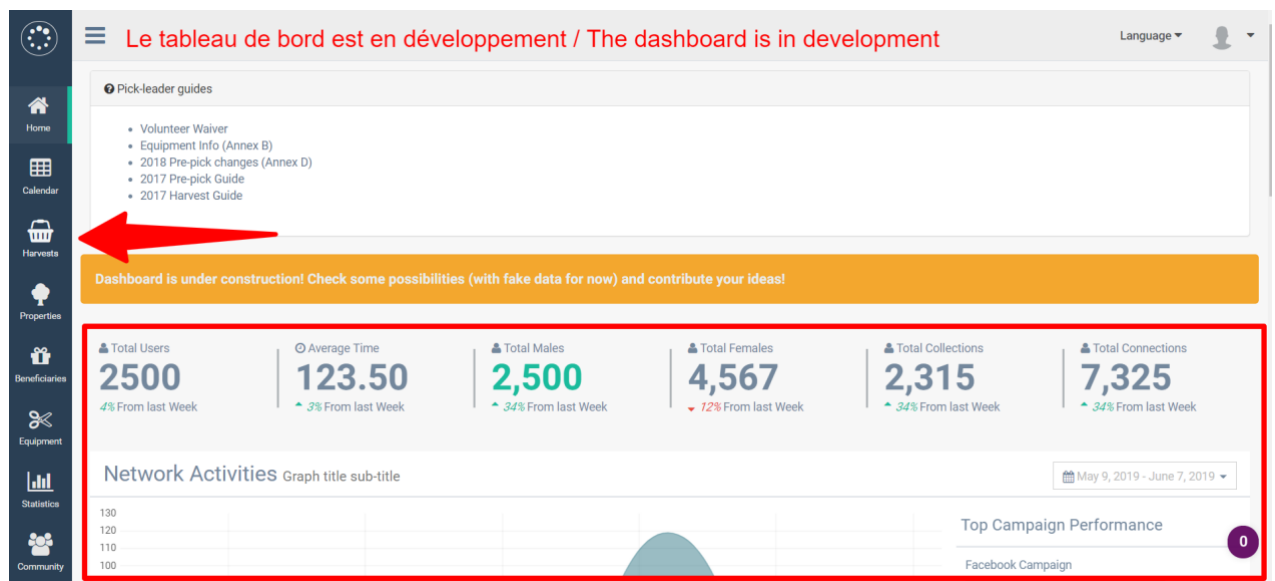


Fig.4

- Explore all the possible trees and vines. Those that have no pickleader assigned and are “orphans” (**Fig.5**) are yours for the taking! Be sure to note the tree’s location (neighbourhood) and its scheduled date (**Fig 6**), which corresponds to its approximate date of fruit maturity. ***Important note: You must contact the tree owner several weeks before the approximate default date. This way, we do not miss the actual due date!***

The screenshot shows the "Harvests" table in the Saskatoon dashboard. The table has columns for #, Harvest, Tree, Pickers, Status, and Date. A red box highlights the "Harvest" column, and another red box highlights the "Status" column, with a red arrow pointing to the "Orphan" status. The table lists several harvests, including Sweet cherry tree, Sour cherry tree, Saskatoon, Red pear tree, Yellow pear tree, and Sour cherry tree. The "Status" column shows "Adopted" or "Orphan" with a corresponding icon. The "Date" column shows the scheduled date for each harvest. On the right side, there is a sidebar with filters for Harvest status, Neighborhood, Tree, Pick leader, and Season, along with a "Filter" button.

#	Harvest	Tree	Pickers	Status	Date
384	de l'Esplanade	Sweet cherry tree		Adopted	2019-07-21 20:30
385	Everett	Sour cherry tree		Orphan	2019-07-06
386	Henri-Julien	Saskatoon		Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25
387	David	Sour cherry tree		Adopted	2019-07-15 19:46
388	Henri-Julien	Saskatoon		Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25
389	David	Red pear tree		Adopted	2019-09-01 19:52
390	Egan	Yellow pear tree		Adopted	2019-06-26 17:00
391	St-Vallier	Sour cherry tree		Orphan	2019-07-15 21:24

Fig.5

#	Harvest	Tree	Pickers	Status	Date
384	[redacted] de l'Esplanade	Sweet cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-07-21 20:30
385	[redacted] Everett	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Orphan	2019-07-06 0:00
386	[redacted] Henri-Julien	Saskatoon	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25
387	[redacted] O David	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-07-15 19:46
388	[redacted] Henri-Julien	Saskatoon	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25
389	[redacted] David	Red pear tree Yellow pear tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-09-01 19:52
390	[redacted] Egan	Sweet cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 17:00
391	[redacted] St-Vallier	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Orphan	2019-07-15 21:24

Fig.6

- 4) To learn more about a tree or vine, click on the name of its owner (**Fig.7, item #1**). This will bring you to what we call the “Property Page” (for an example, see **Fig.15**). Here, you will find information about the owner, including contact info. and language preference, and about the property, including important physical attributes and equipment available on-site. Additional information about the harvest itself can be found by clicking on the Harvest ID button further to the left (**Fig.7, item #2**). This will bring you to what we call the “Harvest Page” (for an example, see **Fig.8**).

#	Harvest	Tree	Pickers	Status	Date	Action
384	[redacted] de l'Esplanade	Sweet cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-07-21 20:30	[Adopt icon]
385	[redacted] Everett	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Orphan	2019-07-06 0:00	[Orphan icon]
386	[redacted] Henri-Julien	Saskatoon	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25	[Adopt icon]
387	[redacted] O David	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-07-15 19:46	[Adopt icon]
388	[redacted] Henri-Julien	Saskatoon	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 19:25	[Adopt icon]
389	[redacted] O David	Red pear tree Yellow pear tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-09-01 19:52	[Adopt icon]
390	[redacted] Egan	Sweet cherry tree	[redacted]	Adopted	2019-06-26 17:00	[Adopt icon]
391	[redacted] St-Vallier	Sour cherry tree	[redacted]	Orphan	2019-07-15 21:24	[Orphan icon]

Fig.7

- 5) If, after having done your research, you decide you want to lead a pick at that tree or vine, “adopt” it by clicking the harvest ID number (**Fig.7, item #2**) and then clicking the “adopt” button (**Fig.8**).

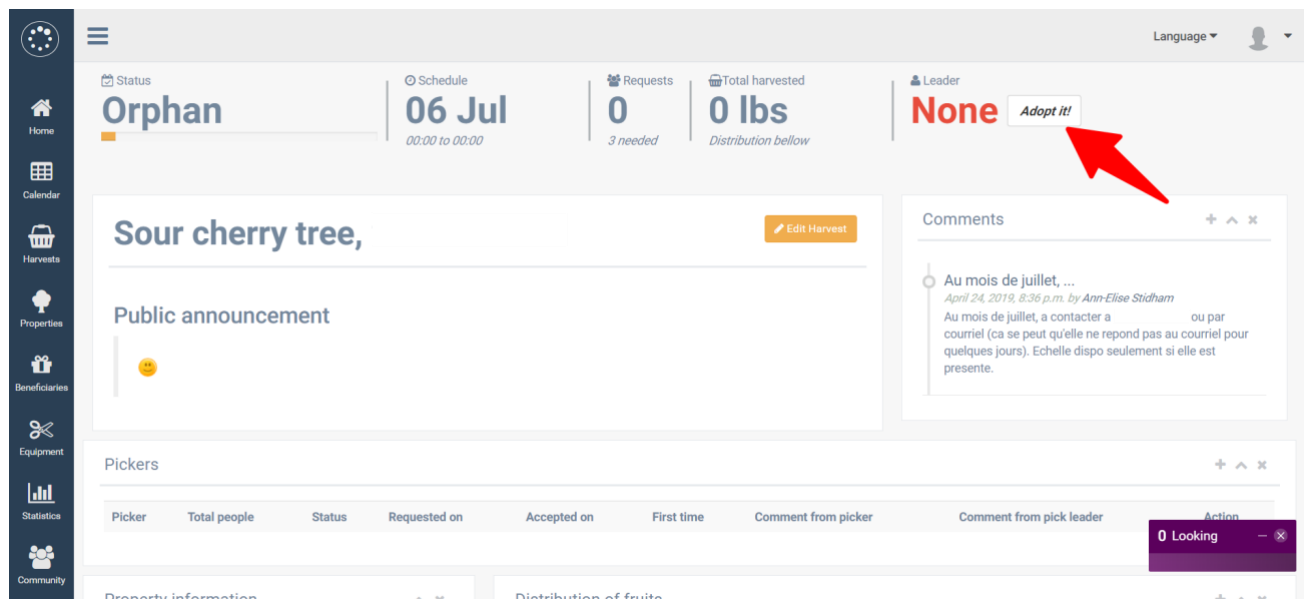


Fig.8

Congratulations! You just adopted a tree or vine to save its fruit!

A few important things to keep in mind when adopting trees:

- Try to give priority to those with earlier due dates (these are more urgent).
- Try not to choose too many trees with pick dates that are close to each other, so that you do not become not overwhelmed. It's important to keep in mind that scheduling a harvest is dependent on many unpredictable variables (weather, your schedule, the treeowner's schedule, etc.). *We request that you not adopt more than three (3) harvests at the same time.*
- **Once you've adopted** a harvest, you are responsible for this tree (see the next steps to understand what this responsibility entails). If, for whatever reason, you cannot lead a pick at a tree or vine you've adopted, you must **un-assign yourself from that harvest (aka "unadopt")**. If you fail to do so, we risk missing that tree or vine's fruit! To un-assign yourself from a tree or vine you've adopted, follow these steps:
 - 1) In the "Harvests" tab, select your tree or vine's ID number (see **Fig 7, item #2**).
 - 2) Click "Edit this harvest" (**Fig 9**)

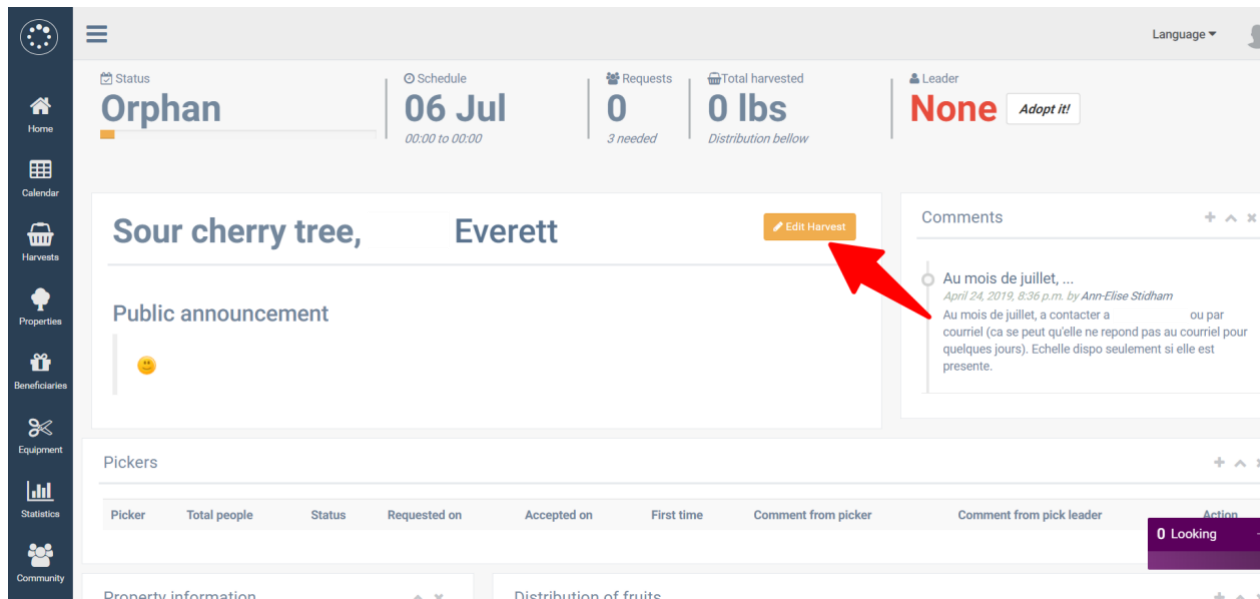


Fig.9

- 3) Change the “Harvest Status” to “Orphan” using the dropdown menu (**Fig.10**) and remove your name as pickleader (**Fig.11**).

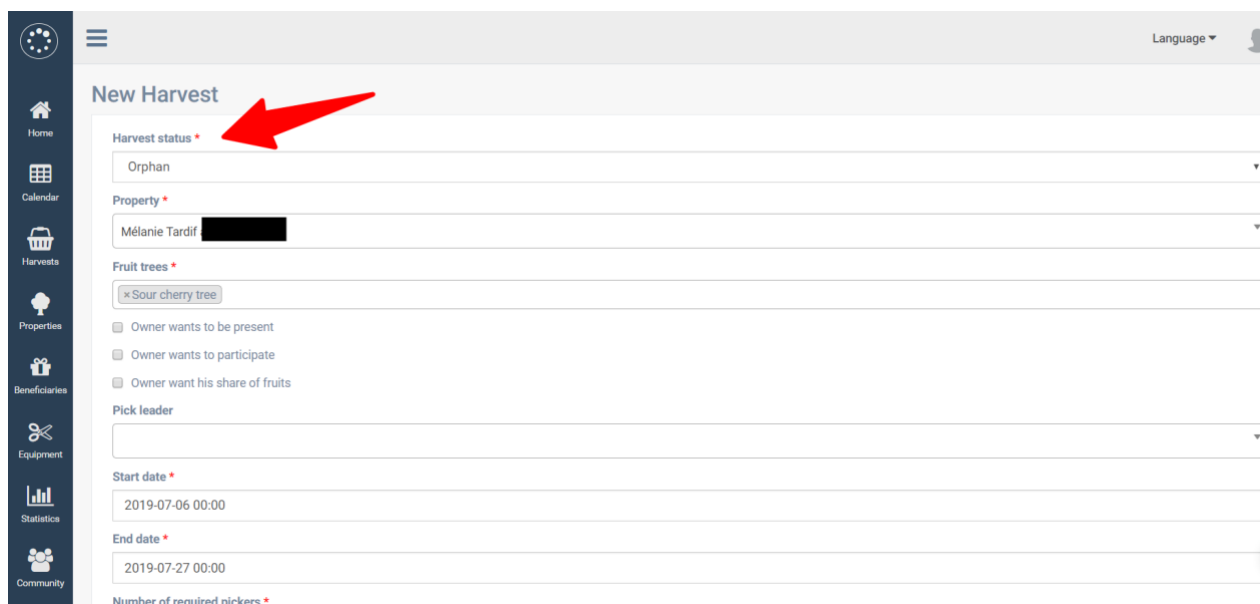


Fig.10

New Harvest

Harvest status *
Orphan

Property *
Mélanie Tardif

Fruit trees *
x Sour cherry tree

☐ Owner wants to be present
☐ Owner wants to participate
☐ Owner want his

Pick leader *
Nazmus Syed

Start date *
2019-07-06 00:00

End date *
2019-07-27 00:00

Number of required pickers *

Fig.11

Contact the tree owner to schedule the pick

It is your responsibility to contact the owner of each tree or vine you've adopted (by phone, email, or in person) to determine the date and time of the pick. Contact information for each owner can be found in *Saskatoon* by clicking on their name under the "Harvests" tab (see **Fig.7, item #1**) or by searching their name under the "Properties" tab (**Fig.12 & 13**).

Properties

Show 25 | Copy | CSV | Print | Search:

#	Property	Status	Tree	Picks	Last pick
2	Laval	inactive	Red apple tree		
3	2J9, NDG QC	inactive	Red apple tree		
4	Shambord	inactive	Green pear tree		
5	Quebec	inactive	Elderberry		
6	Esplanade or Jeanne Mance	inactive	Red apple tree		
8	Outremont Nord de St-Roch	inactive	Green pear tree Red apple tree		
9	Lanaudiere	inactive	Red apple tree		
11	Bordeaux, Montréal QC	inactive	Crabapple tree		
12	Orolet	inactive	Saskatoon		

There is a ladder available in the property
Unknown

Is active
Unknown

Tree
Unknown

Authorized for this season
Unknown

A ladder is available in the property and can be used for nearby picks
Unknown

Neighborhood
Unknown

Pending

Fig.12

Fig.13 [map unavailable yet]

Always consult the pick calendar (**Fig.14**) before choosing a date and time, to avoid scheduling conflicts with other picks. Note that two picks can take place at the same time if the pickleaders use equipment located at different storage locations; in such cases, however, it is always a good idea to contact the pickleader of the conflicting timeslot to confirm who is using what!

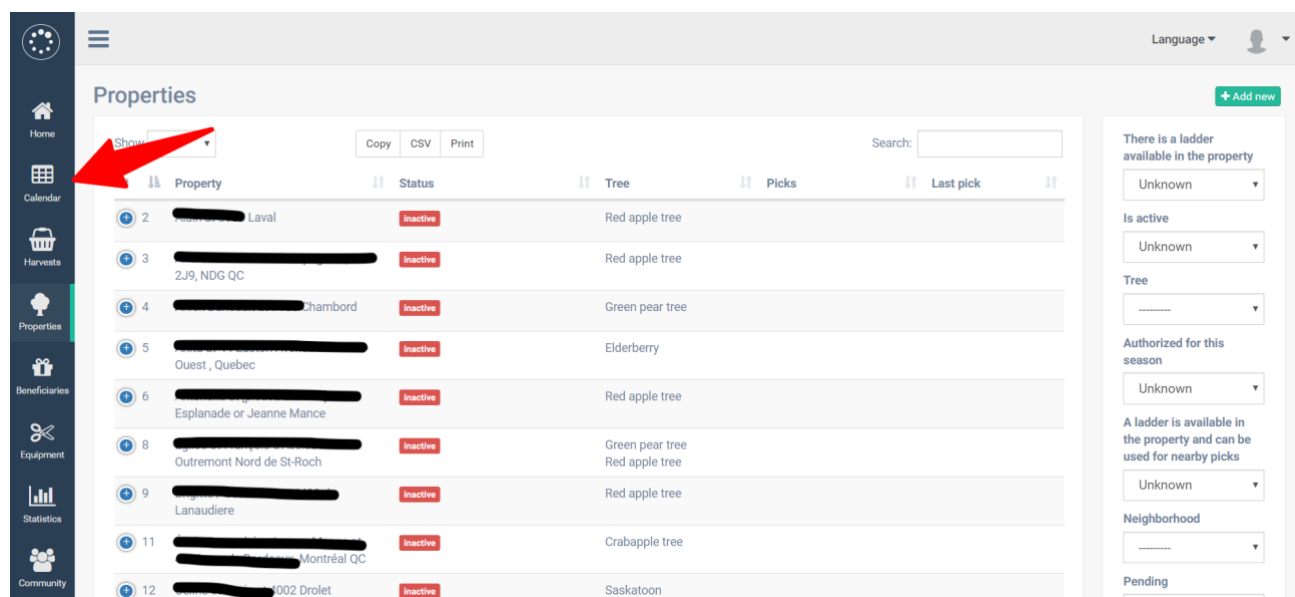


Fig.14

To ensure that you have enough time for picking, cleanup, and delivery of the fruit, plan your picks no less than four (4) hours before the closing of your chosen material storage location. If an exception is necessary, discuss with your fruit buddy. See Annex B for the opening hours of our equipment points.

Since a member of the fruit group should have already contacted the owner, she/he will be waiting for your call. Theoretically, all relevant information should have already been gathered and entered into *Saskatoon* by the fruit group. However, if you find that information you might need is missing, do ask the tree owner. Some questions fruit groups do not pose to owners, but which might be relevant, include:

- Whether we can climb in the tree to access the fruit (if necessary)
- In the case the owner can't be present during the pick, where their share of the fruit should be left. Ask them to provide one or more containers (preferably with lids, if possible).
- If there is no compost bin at the property, request to have garbage bags left out for you for the fallen fruit.

Note: As you are responsible for the tree/vine, you are responsible for updating the harvest information in *Saskatoon* with any information pertinent to the planning of the pick. Tracking such information indicates activity and progress in the organization of a pick – it helps let other Saskatoon users know what's going on. From season to season, it can help new pickleaders gauge timelines and expectations when dealing with the same trees and vines. *Therefore, make sure you*

record the information you collect each time you communicate with the tree owner.

- ➔ For information regarding the particular pick you are leading (short term information), add your notes into the Harvest Comments by clicking “+” or “Add new” when viewing the Harvest Page (**Fig.15**).

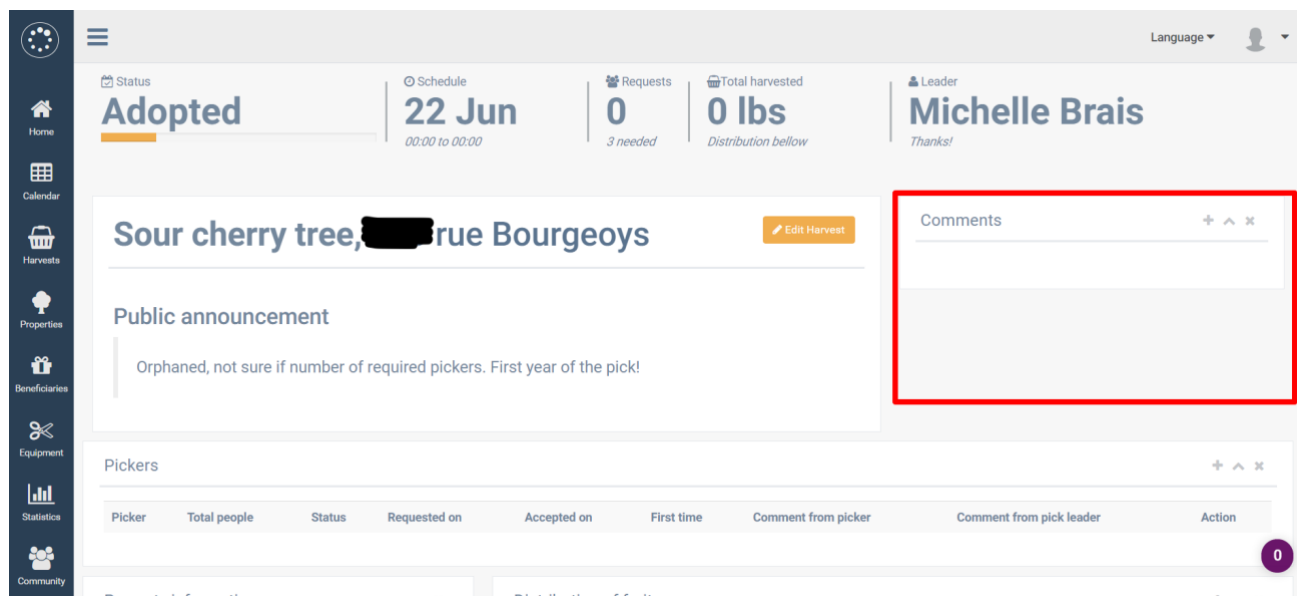


Fig.15

- ➔ For all information concerning the tree itself or the owner (long term information), add your notes to the property page. You can do this by clicking “Edit property” when viewing the property page (**Fig.16**). Most notes can be added to the “Additional Information” section (**Fig.17**).

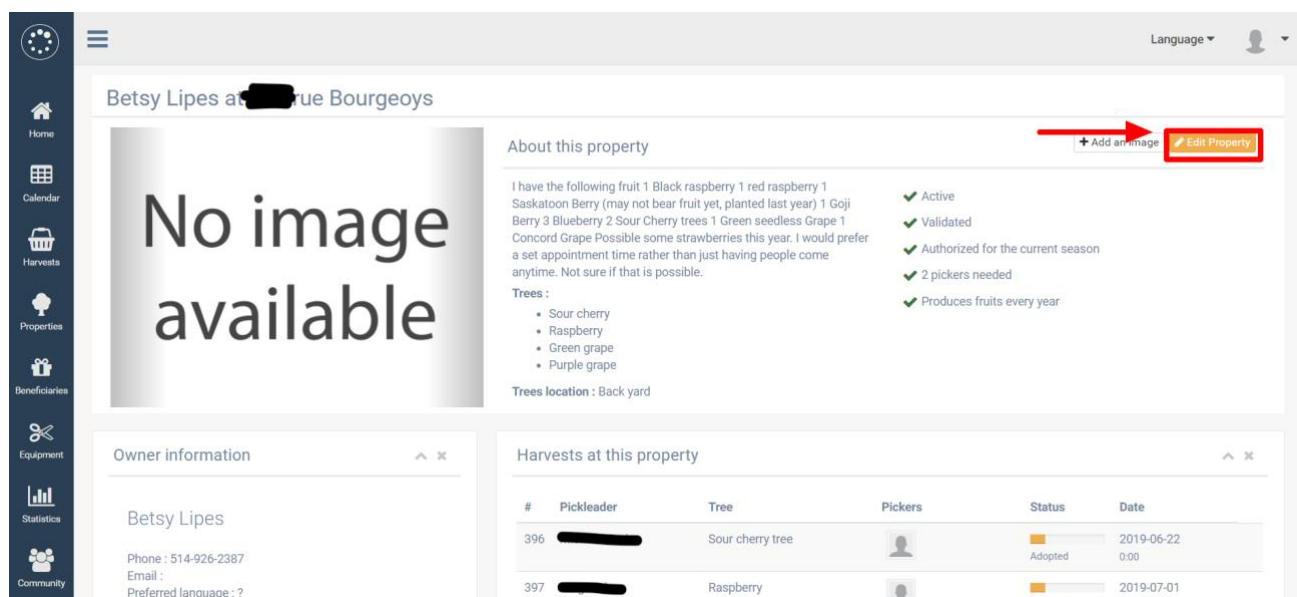


Fig.16

Geom

Enter valid JSON

Additional information

I have the following fruit

- 1 Black raspberry
- 1 red raspberry
- 1 Saskatoon Berry (may not bear fruit yet, planted last year)
- 1 Goji Berry
- 3 Blueberry
- 2 Sour Cherry trees
- 1 Green seedless Grape
- 1 Concord Grape

Possible some strawberries this year.

Any additional information that we should be aware of

SIMPLTON - Based on Template by Colorlib

Fig.17

It is always a good idea to ***visit the tree or vine in person to check the maturity of the fruit***. Be sure to note your observations in the Harvest Comments. See Annex C for tips on how to determine the maturity of the tree's or vine's fruit. It is your responsibility to know when the fruit is ready to be picked – owners do not always know!

You always need to have the consent of the owner before harvesting their tree or vine. If you don't succeed in contacting the owner before it's too late for the fruit*, cancel the pick by updating the tree/vine's status to "cancelled" (similar to **Fig.10**) and leave a note in the Harvest Comments section (see **Fig.15**) explaining why the pick was cancelled.

*If you need help determining whether it's too late for the fruit you want to pick, ask your fruit buddy or pass by the tree/vine to have a look for yourself. If you go in person and find fruit still on the tree/vine, use the information in **Annex C** to gauge the fruit's maturity.

Find a beneficiary organization that will receive the fruit

As you know, one third of the fruit will be given to a beneficiary organization at the end of the pick.

You get to choose the organization to which you will donate the fruit (ex: the closest one to your pick). When you choose, you must call or email the contact person from the beneficiary organization beforehand to determine if they will be able to receive your fruit, (i.e. if they have the staff, equipment, and storage space to deal with the delivery - especially for fruit that cannot be eaten as-is). You must agree upon how, where, and when you will deliver the fruit. Please respect the advance notification requests of each organization. Don't forget to let them know the quantity and quality of the fruit you are going to deliver.

During the harvest season, our list of beneficiary organizations will be updated regularly therefore

refer to the most current version either on Saskatoon, printed copies at the equipment points or the emailed versions.

In 2019, we coordinated with some community fridges to expand our donations possibilities. If you wish to give to a community fridge, please advise us at info@lesfruitsdefendus.org a while ahead as this is a relatively new practice. Community fridge are often managed by Facebook groups; you can find the references in the Beneficiary list.

Publish the pick and assemble a team

Once you have chosen a harvest date with the tree or vine's owner and you have found an organization to receive your fruit, you are now ready to announce the pick to our volunteers! We do this by publishing the picks in *Saskatoon's* pick calendar.

Before publishing the pick on the calendar, go to the "Edit Harvest" page (see **Fig.9**) and verify/input the following:

- The date and time of the pick, as determined with the owner, in 24-hour format (**Fig.18**).
- The number of pickers necessary (this does not need to be changed unless you've determined with the owner that more or fewer pickers will be needed) (**Fig.18**).
- The "Public announcement" section, which should include any information about the pick that you'd like to make visible to prospective pickers, e.g. you're looking for volunteers to help with transport of fruit to the beneficiary organization after the pick, or maybe the tree is particularly beautiful (**Fig.18**). **ATTN: do NOT publish any private information in this section, as this section is visible to the public. The exact location (address) of the tree is private information.**

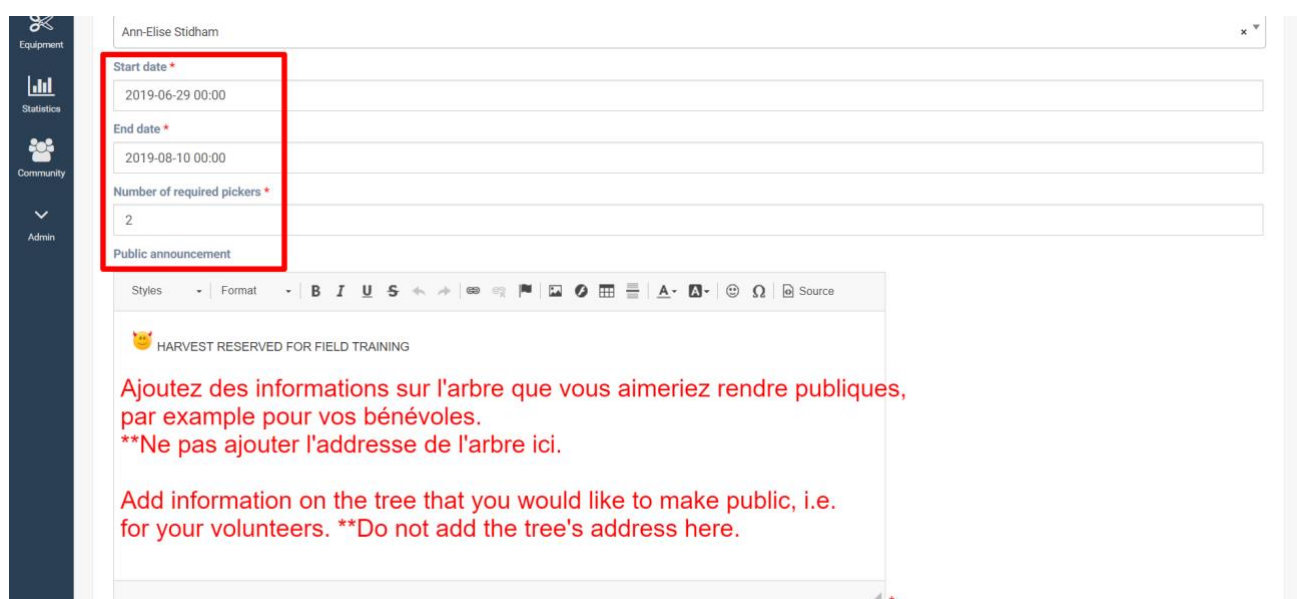


Fig.18

Note: We never publish the exact address of the tree in the calendar. This information is provided to volunteers by email after they have signed up.

Once you have verified that all the pick information is correct, **change the status of your harvest to “Date scheduled” to publish the pick in the calendar**. Note: scheduled picks will automatically appear in the calendar daily at 6pm – they do not appear immediately in the calendar! If the harvest is published less than 48 hours before the scheduled pick date, let your fruit buddy know so that he/she can help you recruit volunteers through other avenues, if necessary.

When a volunteer signs up for a pick, you will receive an automatic email, and a participation request will automatically be created in the system (**Fig.19**).

In the “Pickers” section of the harvest page (**Fig.19**), you can manage your pick requests. Here, you can see comments that were added by each person requesting to volunteer. You may change the status of their request to “accepted” or “declined” and you may add your own comments. However, please note that **any information you update here is not visible to the potential volunteers**. Currently this information is only visible to those who can log in to Saskatoon. This means that **you will need to contact each hopeful picker yourself directly by phone or email to let him/her know if you have accepted or declined his/her request to participate in the harvest.**

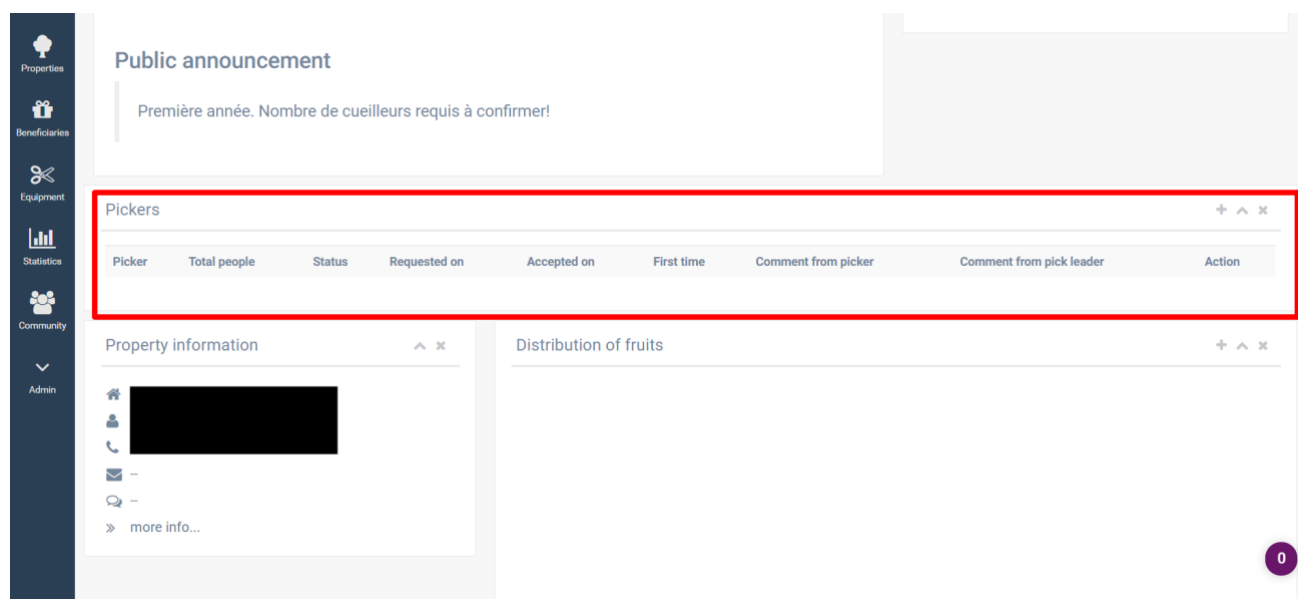


Fig.19

After a sufficient number of volunteers have signed up, change the pick status to “Ready” (similar to **Fig.10**).

When assembling your team, please give priority to the first-time harvesters, those who have never done a pick. Ideally, at least one spot per pick can be reserved for new pickers. If you have requested help with transporting equipment or fruit, you may give priority to those who agreed to help you.

After choosing your team, you are responsible for contacting each volunteer by email or phone to confirm their participation to the pick. Once they have confirmed, be sure to give them the following information:

- Address of the property where the tree or vine is located
- Reminder of date and time of pick
- Reminder to bring water, sunscreen, and containers or bags for their portion of the fruit
- Instructions to wait for you before starting the pick or knocking on the owner's door
- Your contact information (phone number, if possible)

IMPORTANT: if more pickers than necessary sign up before you close the pick in the calendar, you must contact each of them to inform them that, unfortunately, the pick is already full and that their help will not be necessary for this harvest.

Annex A – Beneficiary organizations

A beneficiary organization is a partner to whom we donate 1/3 of the fruit we harvest during a pick. Beneficiary organizations ensure the redistribution of the fruit to those in need and promote food security.

During the harvest season, our list of beneficiary organizations will be updated regularly, therefore, you should refer to the most current version on Saskatoon.

Annex C – Fruit ripeness

Here are some tips for determining whether your fruit is ready to be harvested. In general, the best way to determine a fruit's maturity is to taste it!

Apples:

- Should be harvested at maturity.
- Should be harvested by a simple rotation of the fruit: if the stem easily detaches from the branch, it's ready to be picked.
- You can also taste the apple to see if it's ripe. Even naturally sour apples lose their bitterness when they're ripe.
- Inspecting the apple's seeds is another good indication of fruit maturity: if they're a deep brown, the apple is definitely ripe (but do taste it to make sure that it's not bitter).

Saskatoon Berries:

- Should be harvested at maturity.
- Should be completely purple/violet, but not too soft. If they're red, they're not ready yet.

Cherries:

- Should be harvested at maturity.
- Should be juicy and sweet yet firm. Note that sour cherries are sour even at maturity, hence the name!
- Sweet cherries should be deep red when harvested. Sour cherries should be a bright red when harvested.
- Trust your tastebuds!

Plums:

- Should be harvested at maturity.
- Should be sweet but not too firm.
- Note that in some trees, the plums exposed to more sunlight ripen faster, so parts of the tree will be ready to harvest and other parts not. With this in mind, when planning a plum pick, try to choose a time during which the largest quantity of fruit will be ready for harvest (if doing two picks is not an option).
- Plums enlarge quite a bit right before they hit maturity. If you notice that the plums are starting to look bigger, it's time to organize the pick!

Grapes

- Should be harvested at maturity.

- Should be firm but not too firm, juicy, and sweet. When they start looking wrinkly, that means you missed the ideal picking time.

Pears

- Should be harvested when they're still green (i.e. not mature) and firm. They should have a green-yellow hue.
- After harvesting, pears need to be left to mature for a few days. Winter pears (Bosc, Anjou) should be refrigerated at least 30 days after being picked in order to ripen properly.
- Do not leave the pears to mature on the tree, as this tends to give them a grainy texture and also causes them to rot at the core once stored. Pears ripen better once they have been harvested!
- Conversely, if you harvest pears too soon, they might not be able to completely develop their normal flavour.
- A pear that's ready to harvest is supple. Cut one in half to verify the consistency inside: if it's as hard as wood, it's not ready. There should be a slight suppleness, but not too much.
- Should be harvested by a simple rotation of the fruit: if the stem easily detaches from the branch, it should be ripe.
- Like with apples, seeds are a good indication of fruit maturity: if they're deep brown, the fruit is most likely ripe.