

EVALUATION OF THE EFFICACY AND CROP SAFETY OF A STANDARD SPRAY PROGRAM ON APPLE POWDERY MILDEW WITH TWO RATES OF WETCIT



WETCIT



BASIC INFORMATION

TARGET	Apple powdery mildew (<i>Podosphaera leucotricha</i>)
CROP	Apples Variety: Royal Gala
SPRAY WATER VOLUME	started at 1000 l/ha, increased to 3200 l/ha
LOCATION	Odessa Farm, Ceres • South Africa
TRIAL DATE	2007/8 summer season
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CROP

Apples

Variety: Royal Gala

FIELD SITUATION

A standard commercial disease and insect control program was applied alone and in combination with two rates of **WETCIT** to blocks of 6 trees in a commercial orchard by means of high pressure handguns. A total of 12 applications were from green tip stage through to harvest. Normal Calcium nitrate and Calcium chloride applications for the control of bitterpit were part of the spray program.

Powdery mildew of apple is a particularly difficult disease to eradicate once present in the orchard. The trial orchard had a very high primary infection carried over from the previous season and this resulted in a very high leaf infection with 75% of the untreated leaves being infected.



PEST

Primary mildew on an apple blossom cluster (right)

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

At the evaluation date on 24 November, when fruit were 25 mm in size, it was clear that the addition of **WETCIT** at 100 ml/hl resulted in numerical improvements in powdery mildew control whilst the addition of **WETCIT** at 200 ml/hl resulted in a statistically significant improvement in powdery mildew control over the standard program.

No phytotoxicity was observed on fruit or leaves for the duration of this trial and the use of **WETCIT** at 200 ml/hl with a standard disease and insect control program is recommended.

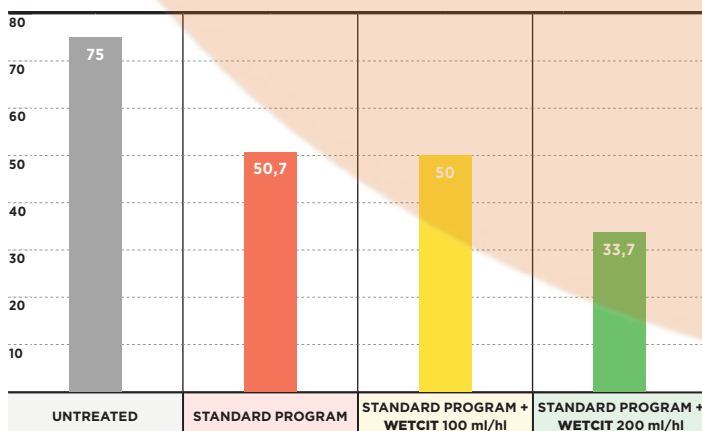
TREATMENT TABLE

1	Untreated
2	Standard*
3	Standard + WETCIT 100 ml/hl
4	Standard + WETCIT 200 ml/hl

*Standard = Mancozeb, Bupirimate, Fluzilazol, Deltamethrine, Methyl-parathion, Flufenoxuron, Indoxacarb, Azinphos-methyl, Thiachlopid and fertilizers

GRAPH 01

FREQUENCY OF POWDERY MILDEW INFECTION ON 24 NOVEMBER 2007 Infection (%)



GRAPH 02

INTENSITY OF POWDERY MILDEW INFECTION ON 24 NOVEMBER 2007 Infection (%)

