



Media Release

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Crop Care Australasia Introduces Two New Products in Horticulture

By continuing to bring new, innovative insecticide and miticide formulations to the market place, Crop Care Australasia is providing growers with a wide range of control options for a number of horticulture crops this summer.

Two leading edge products with unique formulations, new to the Crop Care Australasia portfolio are Betomite[®], the new WG formulation of propargite for long lasting mite control, and Amulet Cue-Lure[®], the latest tool for managing Queensland Fruit Fly.

According to Kerrie Mackay, Horticulture Business Manager, Crop Care Australasia, both Betomite and Amulet Cue-Lure offer Australian fruit and vegetable growers improved technology to help eliminate pests, in an effort to produce higher quality crops.

“Betomite is a new 300g/Kg WG formulation of propargite developed using Crop Care’s patented sorbie technology and is manufactured in our plant in Western Australia,” she said.

“Betomite offers growers a high quality, dustless granular formulation which disperses easily in water.”

Crop Care Australasia has had a long history with propargite, having sold Omite for many years.

It is for this reason that Mrs Mackay recommends the technical sales team to assist with any enquiries regarding the product.

“Betomite is a welcome addition to our already comprehensive miticide range in stone fruit and pomefruit,” she said.

Effective on Two-spotted mite and European red mite, Betomite is suitable for integrated pest management programs and manages to kill mites, which are resistant to other chemicals.

Mrs Mackay suggests the use of lower rates (100g/100L) specified for apples and stone fruit where biological control of mites is being practised.

Betomite offers protection for stone fruits, apples, vegetable crops, bananas, strawberries and ornamental plants.

Amulet Cue-Lure is a revolutionary new device that controls Queensland Fruit Fly and is a competitive substitute for high volume fruit crop cover spray, says Doug Nuttall, Product Manager, Crop Care Australasia.

“These fruit fly stations are an environmentally friendly attract and kill M.A.T. device that replace the traditional methods of mixing chemicals for the control of Qld Fruit Flies.

Amulet Cue – Lure containing Fipronil, offers some unique characteristics compared to other insecticides ” he said.

Registered for use in stone fruits, citrus, table grapes, area-wide management, and use in Steiner-type fruit fly traps, crop protection is achieved by creating a fruit fly free zone around the crop.

“The bigger the zone, the better the protection,” said Mr Nuttall.

Amulet stations last at least 3 months and are hung in fruit trees throughout orchards and surrounding vegetation on a 25 metre grid pattern in conjunction with weekly protein bait sprays.

According to Mr Nuttall, the stations should be placed in the dense shade in a tree to minimise exposure to sun, wind and rain. This should be done five to eight weeks prior to fruit reaching the stage of susceptibility to fruit fly attack or all year, from first spring appearance of flies.

“Amulet Cue Lure stations attract and kill male Qflies, but the delayed action of fipronil enables the toxicant to be transferred from males to virgin females during mating activities. Field trials in 2004 and 2006 using large cages over fruit trees showed up to 65% of female populations in those cages died from fipronil transferred to them secondarily from males after they visited an Amulet station. This is a significant advantage over previous Cue Lure based devices that killed only males,” he said.

Amulet Cue-Lure fruit fly stations are available in a large commercial pack of 100 units in five layers of 20 stations, or a small grower home garden pack of 16 units in two layers of eight stations.

Further information:

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