

Sunscreen Approved as Input for Organic Production

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ORGANIC fruit and vegetable growers can now protect many of their valuable crops from sun damage with a liquid calcium carbonate sunscreen.

Crop Care has launched Parasol-O – a new formulation of the already popular sunscreen, Parasol®.

Parasol-O is the only sunscreen approved by organic certifier NASAA (Cert No 8140M) as an input for organic production of a range of tree fruits, tree nuts, olives, pineapples, vegetables and seedlings.

In trials last summer, Parasol-O-treated Granny Smith apple trees in commercial Victorian orchards produced significantly less sun-damaged fruit than untreated trees.

In a Gippsland orchard, the percentage of fruit with no sunburn was doubled from 23% in untreated trees to 47% in trees treated with the sunscreen. 94% of the fruit was marketable, compared with 70% from untreated trees.

Parasol-O is ideal for both certified organic growers, and other growers wishing to minimise their chemical inputs.

Crop Care advises growers that Parasol-O must be used within six months of the date of manufacture. To achieve organic certification, chemicals usually used to extend shelf-life could not be included in the formulation.



Apples protected from sun damage with Parasol-O sunscreen.

For More Information:

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