

ReTain[®]

Advanced Stonefruit Management



The ultimate challenge to achieving greater profitability in stonefruit production is to consistently produce fruit that can meet market demand for size, firmness, fruit finish and storage ability – QUALITY.

WHAT IS ReTain?

The active ingredient in ReTain is aminoethoxyvinylglycine (AVG), a naturally occurring fermentation product that blocks ethylene production in plants. Ethylene affects plant processes such as fruit maturation, ripening and fruit drop. ReTain can be used in stonefruit pre-harvest to suppress ethylene biosynthesis in order to manage the timing of ripening, increase fruit size and firmness and improve storage potential.

WHEN TO APPLY ReTain

Stonefruit

Apply 7-14 days before harvest to

- Improve fruit quality and storage potential
- Increase fruit size and firmness

FIRMNESS

A major advantage of using ReTain is that fruit is firmer than untreated fruit at harvest. The firmer the fruit, the greater its storage and sale ability.

SIZING AGENT

As a result of slowing harvest maturity, ReTain indirectly provides larger fruit upon harvest. This is due to the fruit growing at its normal rate for an extended time – a benefit of delaying the harvest date. Depending on variety and conditions, fruit held on the tree can increase 1% of its weight per day. ReTain can beneficially shift size pack outs to maximise returns. Large fruit is usually softer than small fruit. With ReTain there is the benefit of larger AND firmer fruit.

IMPROVED STORAGE POTENTIAL

ReTain maintains the quality of fruit well after it has been picked. The higher the quality that goes into storage, the better quality fruit coming out of storage and transport. The fruit maintains its firmness and has a reduced frequency of disorders enabling increased profitability for the grower.

HARVEST MANAGEMENT

Managing a harvest can become a complex task when considering parts of the process such as organising staff, packing, storage and transport. These aspects combined with variables such as weather and fruit maturity can seriously affect a successful harvest.

ReTain delays fruit maturation and in effect lengthens the harvest season so there is extra time to make important decisions and assign resources efficiently. The result is a successful harvest in all stages from picking to export.



SUMITOMO CHEMICAL

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

USE	TIMING	RATE	CRITICAL COMMENTS
STONEFRUIT (EXCEPT CHERRIES)			
Increase fruit firmness and size, and increase fruit quality and storage potential	7-14 days before 'Harvest'	830 g/ha in 1000 to 1500 L/ha	'Harvest' refers to the first pick of fruit for the current season and should be determined by the timing of previous seasons and progress of the crop in the current season. ReTain will delay the harvest of most stonefruit varieties by about 3 days. Increase in fruit size is a consequence of taking advantage of this delay in maturation. To ensure good coverage ReTain must be used with Maxx Organosilicone Surfactant™ at 50 to 100 mL/100 L in the spray tank.

WITHHOLDING PERIOD

Do NOT harvest for 7 days after application.

Do NOT graze treated vegetation, or cut from stock for 14 days after application.

LABEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Registered on all stonefruit (except cherries).

For Stonefruit

- Apply 830 g/a in 1000 to 1500 L water per/ha. Low volume spraying is not recommended because coverage is critical.
- Apply 7 to 14 days prior to normal start of harvest for current season (i.e. first pick for each variety and block to be treated).
- Surfactant – Maxx organosilicone surfactant is recommended at 50 to 100 mL/100 L.
- Avoid applying when fruit is hot, preferably apply in the morning when fruit is cool.
- Allow 24 hours before spraying with other products or overhead irrigation.
- DO NOT apply if rain is expected within 8 hours of ReTain application.
- DO NOT apply ReTain when trees may be nutrient, water, insect or disease stressed.



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