

TECH UPDATE – SPRING 2018

SAMURAI[®] FOR CONTROL OF LONG TAILED MEALYBUG IN TABLEGRAPES

With the voluntary cancellation of the APVMA registration of Tokuthion[®] (prothiofos) for use in table grapes, the industry has lost an important tool in the control of long tailed mealybug. The loss of Tokuthion places more pressure on the existing range of products available to growers for control of this pest including Samurai Systemic Insecticide.

Samurai is best applied as a soil treatment between budburst and the beginning of flowering. While it may not completely eradicate mealybug, it serves to keep pest numbers low so that fewer foliar sprays are required. However, for growers that have not taken the soil application option, it can also be used as a foliar spray during the season. No product or application timing can be considered a total answer to the problem.

There are several important points to be observed to maximise the control achieved with Samurai as a foliar spray:

- **Samurai should be used as a part of a season long foliar control program.**
- **Foliar applications should take place as soon as crawlers are seen.**
- **A maximum of two sprays of Samurai should be made at least 21 days apart.**
- **These applications should be made not later than bunch closure for mealybug control.**
- **Samurai cannot be considered a clean-up spray immediately prior to harvest.**
- **Application:**
 - A minimum of 1,000 Litres of water per hectare should be used.
 - This volume should be increased as vine foliage becomes bigger to 2,000 litres or more.
 - Later sprays when mealybug have entered the bunches need thorough wetting for good penetration.
 - The addition of MAXX Organosilicone Surfactant at 50 mL/100 L of water may improve control.

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Directions for use

CROP	PEST	RATE	CRITICAL COMMENTS
Table grapes	Long tailed mealybug	Dilute foliar spray 40 g/ 100 L	SAMURAI should be used as part of a season long foliar control program. Application should take place as soon as crawlers are seen. A maximum of two applications at least 21 days apart can be used up to bunch closure. Dilute spray in a minimum of 1000 L/ha to run-off because thorough coverage is essential for good control of these pests. This volume should be increased as vine foliage becomes bigger. Later sprays where mealybug may have entered the bunches, need thorough wetting for good penetration. The addition of MAXX Organosilicone Surfactant at 50 mL/100 L of water may improve efficacy. Refer to the Application/Wetting Agent section.

NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OR IN ANY MANNER CONTRARY TO THIS LABEL UNLESS AUTHORISED UNDER APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION.

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