

TECHNOTE CORASIL - THE CITRUS FRUIT SIZER

Corasil is a plant growth regulator used for increasing the fruit size of citrus, providing growers with the opportunity to significantly improve the packout performance of oranges and mandarins.

Orange and mandarin fresh fruit markets in Australia and overseas consistently offer premium prices for larger sized fruit. The use of Nufarm Corasil Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) offers growers an easy, simple and cost effective way of increasing fruit size.

INCREASED FRUIT SIZE

Field trials conducted in commercial orchards by independent research organisations and Nufarm show that Corasil PGR has consistently increased fruit size and significantly improved pack-out performance.

Large scale trials were conducted through NSW Agriculture to demonstrate the average increase in fruit size when Corasil PGR is used. When compared to an untreated control area, the application of Corasil PGR lead to increase in fruit size and an improvement in pack-out performance.

FRUIT THINNING

Trial results have shown no significant levels of fruit drop when Corasil PGR is used at label rates and at the timings recommended. Observed fruit size increases can be attributed to Corasil PGR increasing individual cell size in the fruit, and not due to decreases in fruit numbers.

MODE OF ACTION

The active constituent in Corasil PGR is dichlorprop-P, an auxin based growth regulator. The product mimics a group of natural plant hormones known as auxins and increases fruit size by enlarging individual cells within the fruit.

VARIETY	CONTROL	CORASIL PGR AT 200ml/100L	DIFFERENCE (mm)
Lengs	80.1	82.6	2.5
Washington	78.2	81.4	3.2
Washington	71.4	75.4	4.0
Lengs	66.9	70.5	3.6
Imperial Mandarins	59.5	60.4	0.9
Lengs	71.4	74.5	3.1
Lengs	68.3	68.6	0.2

Table 1. Above shows the effect of Corasil PGR on average fruit size. Commercial demonstration trials conducted by NSW Agriculture.

RESIDUE MANAGEMENT IN EXPORT PRODUCE

Treated citrus fruit designed for export may require extra time between application and harvest, to be accepted in some export markets. Before applying Corasil PGR, it is advisable to contact Nufarm Australia and/or your industry body about potential trade issues and their management.

MIXING INSTRUCTIONS

Nufarm Corasil mixes readily with both hard and soft water. Add the required amount of this product to water in the spray tank and stir thoroughly. Add Activator® surfactant at the rate of 50 - 125ml per 100L of water or Collide® 700 at 100ml per 100L of water. DO NOT add copper products to the mix if using Collide 700.

APPLICATION

Corasil should be applied in a spray volume of 2500 to 3000 L/ha for citrus trees of 4 metres in height. The spray

volume should be adjusted to suit larger or smaller trees. If a different volume is selected for trees of 4 metres in height, the rate of Corasil must be changed in direct proportion to the change in spray volume. If a volume of 5 - 6000 L/ha is applied to 4m trees, the rate of Corasil would be halved. Spray volumes below 2500 to 3000 L/ha would require a rate increase to maintain the same amount of Corasil per hectare.

COMPATIBILITY

DO NOT tank mix with other crop protection products or fertilisers.

PRECAUTION

Applicators must also be aware that the active ingredient in Corasil PGR, dicloprop-P, may damage susceptible crops such as vines if spray drift occurs. Care needs to be taken to minimise any spray drift.

SITUATION	RATE PER 100L OF WATER	CRITICAL COMMENTS
Mandarins	100ml to 200ml	Apply to fruit of the following sizes: Mandarins: 8 to 20 mm Oranges: 12 to 30 mm These size ranges approximate the period of physiological fruit drop. Only use the lower rate in mandarins at early timings.
Oranges	200ml	Application to small fruit may increase fruit drop. Apply in a spray volume of 2500 to 3000 L/ha for trees of 4 metres height. If spraying at higher volumes (e.g. 5000 to 6000 L/ha) then the rate of Corasil should be reduced in direct proportion to the spray volume increase.

For more information on Corasil, contact your local Nufarm Area Sales Manager.

nufarm.com.au

The information and recommendations set out in this brochure are no substitute for professional or expert advice and are based on tests and data believed to be reliable at the time of publication. Results may vary, as the use and application of the products is beyond our control and may be subject to climatic, geographical or biological variables, and/or developed resistance. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Nufarm Australia Limited disclaims all warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, including but not limited to any warranty that the information is up-to-date, complete, true, legally compliant, accurate, non-misleading or suitable.

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