

Management of Psa-V post-harvest with ACTIGARD[®]

Psa-V risk post-harvest

- Autumn is a high-risk period for Psa-V infection in kiwifruit, with cooler and wetter weather conditions favouring infection.
- Around 300,000 to 500,000 wounds per hectare are created at harvest as fruit stalks providing entry points for Psa-V.
- Wounds caused by high winds and frost can provide additional entry points for Psa-V.
- Late season growth, particularly in male vines, is vulnerable to Psa-V infection.
- Psa-V infection that occurs post-harvest may not be visible until the following spring.
- Applications of ACTIGARD post-harvest can help to reduce Psa-V pressure the following spring.



ACTIGARD stimulates natural self-defence

- ACTIGARD is a plant activator (elicitor) with a unique mode of action. It works by stimulating the natural self-defence system of plants via a response known as Systemic Acquired Resistance (SAR).
- Post-harvest foliar applications of ACTIGARD on Hayward and Gold 3 in autumn have been shown to reduce the level of Psa-V symptoms in the subsequent spring.
- ACTIGARD can be applied up to 4 times per season.
- It can take up to 7 days for ACTIGARD to fully activate the plant. Therefore, the addition of copper is recommended with ACTIGARD to offer vines immediate protection prior to high risk weather events.
- Leaves need to be actively photosynthesising for ACTIGARD to be properly absorbed. ACTIGARD is likely to be less effective if applied to leaves at an advanced stage of deterioration, or after a significant frost event.
- Avoid applying ACTIGARD to vines that are stressed due to drought, excessive moisture, cold weather or disease etc.

Applying ACTIGARD post-harvest

- Apply 200 g/ha of ACTIGARD (plus copper) immediately post-harvest as a foliar spray.
- Ensure thorough coverage of canopy and fruit stalks.
- If canopy condition allows (ie. leaves are still green) and infection risk remains high, reapply ACTIGARD 21 days later to extend protection into the leaf-fall period.

Avoid spray drift

- To avoid the risk of residues on fruit when spraying ACTIGARD post-harvest, extreme care must be taken to prevent spray drift into unharvested fruit in adjacent blocks.
- After spraying ACTIGARD ensure that spray tanks, lines and nozzles are cleaned thoroughly before spraying other products on unharvested kiwifruit.



For more information please call the Syngenta Technical Advice Line on 0800 333 336 or visit our website at www.syngenta.co.nz