

The Grapevine

Viticulture Technical Advisor

Lower Mainland /
Vancouver & Gulf Islands Edition
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Effective Weed Control

Chateau Herbicide

New last year, Chateau WDG herbicide has proven to be a very effective weed control product in grapes, as well as blueberries and strawberries in the Fraser Valley. A Group 14 product that represented new chemistry when it was introduced, Chateau WDG provides seasonal residual control of many broadleaf weeds. Growers soon found that Chateau WDG is effective, forming a "barrier", activated by rain or irrigation of at least ½ cm of water. They also found it does not affect established weeds, but can be mixed with glyphosate to control existing weeds. It must not come in contact with crop fruit, green bark or foliage, and should not be used on very young plants. The active ingredient flumioxazin is a photosynthesis inhibitor, preventing target plants from making chlorophyll by inhibiting an essential enzyme (the enzyme is called protoporphyrinogen oxidase, for those interested in unpronounceable names). It can be used effectively on coarse and medium textured soils, but will be less effective on soils with very fine texture or high organic matter.

The photo (below) of a tree fruit planting shows a comparison of an application of Chateau WDG on the left, versus another herbicide treatment on the right.



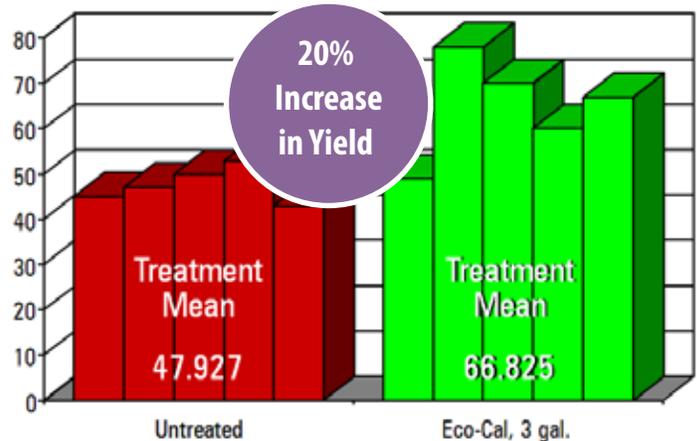
Liquid Fertilizer

Eco-Cal Foliar Calcium

Eco-Cal is a truly systemic foliar calcium supplement for use in grapes and many other fruit and vegetable crops. The analysis is 6-0-0+8Ca+.5B as well as an enhancer that helps to improve fruit firmness, extends storage ("shelf life" in fresh fruit) and marketable yield. In apples, peaches, blueberries, strawberries, tomatoes, pickling cucumbers and of course grapes, scientific research has demonstrated improvements in these and other factors (see graph).

Evaluation of Fruit Weight in Concord Grapes

5 applications @ 2.5 litres - 6/21, 7/5, 7/25, 8/18, 8/30 (5 reps per treatment)



Ron Britt & Associates, Yakima, Washington 1995

Pest Control

New Registrations in Grapes

Diurex 80 WDG

If you used Karmex DF in the past, you will be familiar with Diurex 80 WDG. The same active ingredient, diuron, this Group 7 water dispersible granule formulation is for selective weed control in grapes that are at least three years old. It should be applied as

a pre-emergence herbicide, just prior to weed growth. Diurex 80 WDG will control a variety of annual and perennial grasses and broadleaf weeds. Two applications per year are allowed no closer than 90 days apart. Irrigation or rainfall is required to move the chemical into the root zone. Note – this product can be “hot” on coarse soils that are less than 2% organic matter.

Pristine WG

Here are some additions to the label of this effective fungicide for use in grapes: powdery mildew, botrytis grey mold, black rot, fruit and downy mildew, and bunch rot complex (caused by Cladosporium and Aspergillus species).

Pounce 384 EC

Although this is not a new chemical, Pounce 384 EC gained a registration a couple of years ago in grapes for climbing cutworms. A range of rates is recommended depending on the size of the cutworms. Apply at the first signs of damage within a half meter of the base of the trunk base in the evening.

Precision Agriculture

Environment Sensing Technology

Question: Who installs and services more soil moisture and weather stations in BC than anyone else?

Answer: Grotec Equipment, the specialty equipment division of TerraLink Horticulture, located in Abbotsford. From simple watermarks and data loggers to real-time wireless crop monitoring, Grotec has the system to meet your needs and your budget. The product of choice for high value crops such as wine and table grapes is the Adcon system. Advanced notification of soil moisture problems or potential disease conditions can make the difference between a top tier VQA wine or a blended product. Our advanced installations also include wireless activation of wind machines or irrigation systems. We can take care of the programming to create a user-friendly interface anywhere in the world with an internet connection. Growers are also finding benefit in having weather data to justify water use, mitigation of spray drift complaints and minimization of unnecessary spray applications. Contact Grotec at 1-877-856-8323.



Put Power in Your Crop

Designed for superior uptake and availability, **TigerClaw** Liquid Fertilizers provide producers with the necessary tools to address plant nutritional needs based on physiology and peak nutrient demand.

TigerClaw products enhance crop quality and return on investment.

TigerClaw products are available exclusively at:

TerraLink

TerraLink Horticulture Inc.
464 Riverside Road, Abbotsford BC V2S 7M1
Tel: 604-864-9044 Fax: 604-864-8418
www.tlhort.com

Foliar Fertilizer

PreMix for Grapes

The Grape Premix is 3-1-1 plus magnesium, boron and zinc. It was designed to help meet the nutritional needs of grape vines from spring through summer. The value of a premix is simply that it saves you, the producer, mixing time. Just apply one pail per acre (use a more dilute mix on young plants). Start when there are four to six inches of growth, then apply up to four times per season, ending in July.

Reminder

Viticulture Crop Inputs Available at Top Shelf Feeds

Do you have a vineyard in the Duncan area on Vancouver Island? If so, you can order your supplies through Top Shelf Feeds Inc. Any fertilizer or pest control crop inputs can be ordered either by placing the order with the folks at Top Shelf or by calling TerraLink at 1-800-661-4559. If you call TerraLink to place an order, make sure to specify delivery to Top Shelf. We'll ship to them and you can pick up your products there. Staff at Top Shelf can be contacted at 250-746-5101. They are located at 1895 Roberts Road in Duncan.

Crop inputs for Viticulture can be found at these locations:

On Vancouver Island:

Top Shelf Feeds

1895 Roberts Road, Duncan, BC V9L 3Y2
Tel: 250-746-5101, Fax: 250-746-6233
lori@topshelffeeds.ca

In the Fraser Valley:

TerraLink Horticulture Inc

464 Riverside Road, Abbotsford BC V2S 7M1
Toll Free: 1-800-661-4559
Tel: 604-864-9044, Fax: 604-864-8418
info@tlhort.com

