

# The Grapevine

Viticulture Technical Advisor

Newsletter  
June 2009

## Weed Control

### Mulches for New Plantings

One way to control weeds in new plantings of grapes is to use an artificial mulch on the ground, through which the plants are set. The main concern with the use of regular polyethylene plastic is the very real possibility of causing the root zone environment to become more humid, which might result in an increase in root rot pathogens. Recently, an idea has emerged in the blueberry industry involving the use of heavy duty spunbonded "fabric" polypropylene plastic, the same material as Novagryl floating row cover. There is no reason it cannot be used in grapes as well. The product is called Agryl P-50, black in colour, 50 grams per square meter in weight and permeable to water. It is available in a length of 250 meters, and although different widths may be ordered, 1.5 meters or five feet is probably the best width to try. Agryl P-50 can be applied with a mulch layer which tucks the product in on the edges. Cut an "X" or a hole to set plants. It can be applied over drip tubing if desired, otherwise it is quite permeable and rainfall or overhead irrigation will go through it. After a few years the product will eventually break down from exposure to ultraviolet light, although it will last longer if covered with soil or a mulch. The extra cost will be offset by the reduction in weed control.

## New for 2009

### TigerClaw Liquid Fertilizers

New for 2009, TerraLink is introducing a new line of liquid fertilizers under the TigerClaw brand. Designed for superior uptake and availability, TigerClaw products provide producers with the necessary tools to address



plant nutritional needs based on physiology and peak nutrient demand. Used properly and as part of a complete fertilizer program based on soil-applied sources of major, secondary and minor nutrients, TigerClaw products can enhance crop quality and return on investment. In the Okanagan, TigerClaw liquid fertilizer is available exclusively through Growers' Supply Co.

## New Chemicals

### New Registrations in Grapes

#### Chateau WDG

This herbicide is now registered for pre-emergence control of selected grassy and broadleaf weeds in grapes and cane berries. The active ingredient, flumioxazin, represents new chemistry and is a water dispersible granule formulation. It is most effective on soils of less than 5% organic matter and coarse-textured soils. Moisture is required to activate Chateau WDG for residual weed control, and the soil should not be disturbed following application. Avoid making applications on poorly drained soil as crop injury may occur. Also, Chateau WDG must not come in contact with foliage and fruit, and is harmful to both aquatic and non-aquatic organisms, so buffer zones must be observed.

#### Revus

A new fungicide that has been registered for downy mildew in grapes, Revus contains the active ingredient mandipropamid, a preventative Group 40 chemical. Although it does not have true systemic activity, it does have translaminar movement and has excellent

rainfastness. Revus inhibits mycelial growth and is active against spore germination. Even though it is really only effective on its own against downy mildew in grapes (a foliar oomycete pathogen), when combined with other fungicides the disease control spectrum and resistance management may be increased.

#### Movento 240SC

Movento 240 SC arrived on the scene part way through last season. A broad spectrum insecticide for sucking insects such as aphids, Movento 240SC is unique in what Bayer calls "two way pest control". Not only does this product move downwards in a plant, through the phloem, it simultaneously moves upwards too, through the xylem. This includes going from the top of leaves right through them to their bottoms as well. Although you should still try and attain thorough coverage on all foliage including the old leaves, Movento 240SC will move to all the growing points and right to the ends of the roots.

Movento 240SC is a Group 23 product like Forbid. It is a lipid biosynthesis inhibitor and acts as a growth regulator. The result on insects is they stop feeding the moment they ingest the chemical, and may continue to move around on the leaves for three days

before dying. Because Movento 240SC is primarily active on immature insects, application timing should coincide with an early threshold level indicated by crop scouting.

On grapes, Movento 240SC is labeled for control of whiteflies, mealybugs and Phylloxera and suppression of lecanium scale. Although not labeled for them, it will also control aphids if they are present. The pre-harvest interval is seven days. A maximum of two applications per year can be made provided that the total amount of product does not exceed 373 mL per acre between the two applications.



Growers Supply  
Company Limited

TerraLink



# 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 in the Okanagan exclusively at your local Growers Supply outlet.

## Altacor

The active ingredient in Altacor, chlorantraniliprole (also known as Rynaxypyr™) represents a new class of chemistry. It is in Group 28, Anthranilic diamide. Altacor is registered for control of lepidopteran pests such as grape berry moth and climbing cutworm in grapes. Up to three applications are allowed per season with a minimum spray

interval of seven days. The total amount used per season must not exceed 260 grams of product per acre. The pre-harvest interval is fourteen days.

Altacor has translaminar activity, moving into leaf tissue where it cannot be washed off and thereby can be ingested by insects feeding on either

leaf surface. It is also fast, as feeding stops within minutes of ingestion by target pests. Altacor is also very suited to IPM programs, as it is effective at low rates and has low impact on beneficial insects. Also, it degrades to non-toxic products, has low water solubility and is not volatile, which means it has low environmental impact.

## Crop Inputs for Viticulture can be found at these locations:

### Growers Supply Co. Ltd.

**Main Office**  
2605 Acland Road,  
Kelowna BC,  
V1X 7J4  
Tel: 250-765-4500  
Fax: 250-765-4545  
info@growers-  
supply-co.com

### Growers Supply Co. Ltd.

**South Okanagan**  
360 Okanagan Ave.  
East, Penticton BC,  
V2A 8N3  
Tel: 250-493-2885  
Fax: 250-493-8153  
info@growers-  
supply-co.com

### South Valley Sales Oliver

34625-91st Street,  
Oliver BC, V0H 1T0  
Toll Free: 1-888-  
875-6670  
Tel: 250-498-6408  
Fax: 498-4022  
brad@  
southvalleysales.  
com

### South Valley Sales Keremeos

1813-5th Street,  
PO Box 372,  
Keremeos BC,  
VOX 1N0  
Tel: 250-499-2900  
Fax: 250-499-2960  
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### TerraLink Horticulture Inc.

464 Riverside Road  
Abbotsford, BC V2S  
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Toll Free:  
1-800-661-4559  
Tel: 604-864-9044  
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