



FOR CONTROLLING MILDEW ON FRUIT TREES

ELECTROLYZED WATER APPLICATION

Over the last two seasons Weber Orchards have tested low pH water for controlling mildew on cherry and apple trees. This last fruit tree season (2013) Weber Orchard dedicated 15 acres of Honey Crisp trees and 3 other smaller 3-5 acre plots of other variety of apple trees. Weber also tested young cherry trees and older fully grown cherry trees.

The FEW application was applied using low pH acidic water with a pH of 3.1 to 3.8 water with an ORP (oxygen reduction potential) of 1000+mV. The trees were sprayed every seven days weather permitting. Weber Farms used electrostatic sprayers spraying 50 gallons per acre on three year old trees and 80 gallons per acre on fully grown trees.

Weber Farms asked Tim Smith from WSU Extension Facility to follow the progress of their application over the growing season. Mr. Smith observed the orchard where he found the application the way it was applied was successful in controlling mildew in Weber's apple and cherry trees. Another observation was where there was strikes of mildew from last year where FEW was not used the low pH water this year after applied stopped the mildew from spreading throughout the tree. On Tim Smith's last visit, he mentioned to Bill Weber he felt where the FEW was used he would say those trees were mildew free and where conventional spray was used and mildew strikes were found after using the FEW application not only was the mildew neutralized the mildew did not spread throughout the trees. The exact quote from Tim was *"on the Honey Crisp trees, other small plots of other variety apple trees and cherry trees he felt this was the cleanest he has ever seen for mildew"*. Tim Smith was not compensated by Weber Orchards for the acknowledgement for are applications.

Skone & Connor out of Warden purchased an Electrolyzed water machine from Cascade Ridge which was used this year for mildew control on their orchards in the Royal Slope area in Washington State. Steve Connor, President of Skone & Connor was pleased with the results they had this year from prior years using conventional sprays. Half way through the season S&K also used the high pH alkaline water spraying the trees two to three days earlier than the low pH acidic application. This was done because FEW water has a lesser surface tension and using both waters will hydrate the tree better for healthier trunk and limbs. Skone & Connor used conventional sprayers using 200 gallons per acre.

AquaFew low pH water was mixed with oil, fungicide and pesticide on separate test in Weber Orchards. The FEW water complimented the oil, fungicide and pesticides due to the surface tension of the water.

Both Weber Farms and Skone and Connors have a designated location where the water is processed into two 10,000 gallon holding tanks. Water is then transferred to the locations where applied.

Feel free to contact:

Bill Weber.

Bill 509-398.3401

Tim Smith

WSU Tree Fruit Extension

Wenatchee, Washington