

AquaMate® Removes Iron in Irrigation System



...."This stuff is saving us a lot of time and money. Great product."

CASE STUDY

Grower	Wayne Knight
Agronomist	
Location	VIC
Crop	Blueberries

Demonstration Purpose

The growers water supply is creek water that has high concentrations of iron in it which deposits in his irrigation lines. The grower had tried many products to remove iron from his irrigation lines with no success. It caused continual blockages of his drippers and many hours of labour having to unblock and physically clean in line filters and drippers. It caused economic stress from both added labour and loss in production from inconsistent watering of the blueberries.

The grower undertook a demonstration with AquaMate® to try and remove iron build up in his irrigation lines and keep it from coming back.

Demonstration Set Up

It was difficult to set up to only treat a section of the blueberries, so the grower decided to undertake a full season trial over the entire farm. The AquaMate® was simply injected into the irrigation system at 30ppm for 1 month and then reduced to 20ppm application. The 30ppm was applied in each irrigation for the full irrigation set for the first month of use and the 20ppm was applied for the remainder of the season in each irrigation but for only 30%-40% of the full irrigation set.

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Application Date	Product Applied	Application Rate
First Month of 2021 Season	AquaMate®	30ppm
Remainder of 2021 Season	AquaMate®	20ppm

Demonstration Results

The results of the demonstration showed a very positive response to the application of **AquaMate®**. After the first 3-4 applications the grower started to see less blockages and after a month and for the remainder of the season there were no blockages of drippers. The in-line field filters were only cleaned once for the whole blueberry season where in past seasons they had to be cleaned at least weekly if not twice a week.

The Financial Return on Investment For The Grower

The financial return in using **AquaMate®** has been calculated to be a saving of \$3,000 dollars in labour costs and has been estimated for this first season to be approx. \$22 per hectare increase in production from the blueberries over past seasons after the cost of the **AquaMate®** applications. The increase in water use efficiency (EEF) is yet to be determined, but the grower estimates at least a 20% improvement.

Conclusion

This demonstration has shown that **AquaMate®** has the ability to remove from irrigation systems, and maintain a clean irrigation system from continual application of irrigation water containing iron. It had sustained removal from the filter system and drippers resulting in improved water use efficiency, improved crop production and considerable savings in labour costs and time. The grower is now in his second season of use and the good results continue and further gathering of data around WUE and crop performance will continue. But the comments from the grower below is testament to the performance of **AquaMate®** on this farm.

Growers comments: *"It worked incredibly well. It's so economical. Cleaned field filters once for the whole blueberry season. This stuff is saving us a lot of time and money. Great product."*

About Advanced Nutrients

Advanced Nutrients is a leader in the development of innovative, environmentally benign fertilisers which cost less and deliver more. For the last 22 years, smart agricultural, horticultural and livestock producers throughout Australia, Africa, Asia and the Middle East have been using our products to cut input costs, boost returns and reduce farming costs.

