



Cutting Edge

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PHYTOPHTHORA BROWN ROT WARNING

M.C. Pretorius
CRI - Nelspruit

Wide-spread rainfall was recorded in most of the winter rainfall regions as well as in certain of the summer rainfall regions. These wet conditions can enhance the chances of Phytophthora brown rot infections and this Cutting Edge therefore serves as a warning to all growers to be on the alert.

Do not spray phosphonates when trees are water logged; wait until the water has drained.

To help prevent postharvest brown rot, treatments should be applied to the trees at least two weeks prior to harvest. *Phytophthora citrophthora* occurs in the winter rainfall areas, and infects fruits throughout the tree canopy. Trees in these areas should be fully sprayed after good, soaking rains. In summer rainfall areas where *Phytophthora nicotianae* var *parasitica* is the problem, only the skirts of the trees up to 1.5 m need to be sprayed.

Phytophthora brown rot control measures:

1. Do not pick skirt (low hanging) fruit for export. Remove this fruit before harvesting and discard.
2. Registered products: The contact fungicides (**copper** at 200 g / 100 l or **mancozeb** at 200 g / 100 l) can be used as a preventive measure against **Phytophthora brown rot..** Contact fungicides must be re-sprayed after any follow-up rainfall.
3. **None of the phosphonates are registered for the control of brown rot, given the risk of phytotoxic damage to fruit. However,** the registered foliar applications of phosphonates for the control of root and collar rot have been shown by CRI to also be effective against brown rot. The phosphonates are systemic products and have been shown to protect fruit for 6-8 weeks when used at the standard root rot dosage. **Phosphonates should not be used on trees that are drought stressed or when the day temperatures exceed 30°C, and producers use them at their own risk.**



PHYTOPHTHORA BRUINVROT WAARSKUWING

M.C.Pretorius
CRI – Nelspruit

Wydverspreide reën het in al die wintergreeënval streke asook gedeeltes van die somerreënval areas uitgesak. Hierdie nat toestande kan die kans van Phytophthora bruinvrot besmetting verhoog en hierdie snykant dien dus as 'n waarskuwing aan alle produsente om voorsorgmaatreëls te tref.

Phytophthora bruinvrot beheermaatreëls:

1. Verwyder laaghangende vrugte om die risiko van **Phytophthora bruinvrot** infeksie na reënval te verminder. Moet nie laaghangende vrugte vir verpakking pluk nie. Verwyder hierdie vrugte voor bome vir uitvoer gepluk word.
2. Geregistreerde middels: Kontakswam-doders (**koper** teen 200 g / 100 l of **mancozeb** teen 200 g / 100 l), kan vir die beskerming van vrugte teen **Phytophthora bruinvrot** voor reënval gespuit word. Kontakswam-doders moet na opvolg-reënval weer gespuit word.

Weens gevalle van fitotoksiese skade op vrugte, is nie een van die fosfonate vir die beheer van bruinvrot geregistreer nie. Tog is die geregistreerde blaarbespuitings vir die beheer van kraag- en wortelvrot ook effekief teen bruinvrot. Fosfonate moet egter nie op bome gespuit word wat onder droogte-stres is of wanneer dagtemperature 30°C oorskrei nie, en produsente gebruik dit op eie risiko.

Versuipte boorde behoort eers uit te droog voordat fosfonaat bespuitings gedoen word, aangesien die bome onder stres is en dit fitotoksiese skade op vrugte kan vererger.

Bespuitings moet twee weke voor oes reeds op die bome wees om effektiewe na-oesbeheer te verseker. In die winterreënvalgebiede kom *Phytophthora citrophthora* voor wat laag- tot hooggangende vrugte kan besmet. Bome in hierdie streke moet dus volledig na goeie deurdringende reëns bespuit sal word en nie net die soom (1.5 m) van die bome soos in die somerreënval-gebiede waar *Phytophthora nicotianae* var *parasitica* voorkom nie.