Pipfruit | Trial Sheet Shepparton, Victoria

Programme

Mycorrcin

Mycorrcin is a soil biostimulant that activates naturally occurring beneficial microbes present in soils. Activating these microbes stimulates new root growth and branching leading to better plant establishment, improved nutrient availability in the soil and uptake by the plant, and greater overall plant resilience. **Mycorrcin** has been found to improve yield, fruit size, uniformity and flavour in a range of crops.

Foliacin

Foliacin is a foliar biostimulant that activates beneficial foliar microbes and the plant's defence system to promote plant health, resilience, and continued growth during periods of environmental, disease and chemical spray stress.



Sassy Apple Tree Orchard in Shepparton, Victoria.

Figure 1. Trunk Cross-sectional Area of Newlyplanted Sassy Apple Trees in Shepparton, Victoria

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Trials

Apples

Mycorrcin increased the growth rate of newly planted Sassy apple trees in a commercial apple orchard in Shepparton, Victoria.

Mycorrcin was applied at 6 L/ha twice per year in autumn and spring. The trunk cross sectional area was then measured and compared in March 2023, December 2023 and April 2024. The comparison showed the **Mycorrcin**treated trees' trunk cross sectional area increased by 60% 18 months after the programme started. This equated to the treated trees being over six months more advanced in growth compared with the untreated trees (Figure 1).

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Pears

Foliacin increased Piqa Boo Pear yield in a commercial pear orchard in East Shepparton, Victoria.

The treated area received four foliar applications of **Foliacin** at 1 L/ha at 14-day intervals starting at fruit set.

At harvest, on 13 February 2024, pears from four representative branches were counted for all treated trees and 54 pears from both treated and non-treated were graded for size.

Figure 2. Impact of Foliacin on Pears per Branch, Piqa Boo Pears, Victoria



Figure 3. Impact of Foliacin on Marketable Fruit, Piqa Boo Pears, Victoria



The number of marketable pears in the untreated pears was 67% while 83% of the **Foliacin**-treated pears were marketable. This is attributed to the **Foliacin**-treated pears having greater uniformity.



Conclusion

Mycorrcin applications in spring and autumn improved the rate of orchard establishment in apples by over six months. Regular **Foliacin** applications over the growing season increased the yield in Piqa Boo Pears from six to ten pears per branch and, by increasing fruit uniformity and reducing rejects, increased the number of marketable pears to 83% compared to the untreated pears at 67%.



Piqa Boo Pear Orchard in East Shepparton, Victoria.

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