



MVCB Weekly News

24 July, 2012

www.mvcitrus.org.au

Murray Valley Citrus Board

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Crop Regulation & Winter Yellows BBQ Breakfast & Farm Walk

Many growers are already thinking about next season's crop load and the effect of winter yellows on flowering and fruiting. There is a likelihood of stressed trees bearing a heavy load of small fruit in the 2013/14 season. All growers are urged to attend this farm walk to minimise the risk of having a large crop of small fruit in the 2013/14 season.

Topics:

- Crop regulation using flower manipulation/pruning – Steven Falivene, Citrus Extension Officer, NSW DPI
- Winter yellows – Michael Treeby, Research Scientist, NSW DPI
- Preliminary results from the on farm trials mulch trials, Karen Connolly, Project Officer, NSW DPI

Wednesday 25th July 2012

8:30am -10:30am

Sam Cross's farm Silver City Highway, Curlwaa

Registration is necessary for catering purposes



Darren Minter, Minter Magic and Pablo Ligouri, Farm Manager for John Keams, at the Potassium Field Trials Farm Walk and BBQ breakfast

Register by ringing MVCB CITTGROUP Co-ordinator Mary Cannard on 0427 211 890 or the MVCB Office on (03) 5051 0500. A map is available if needed to find your way to Sam's property.

Qfly Detections and Update

Due to the onset of cold weather the number of Qfly detections has decreased dramatically throughout the Sunraysia district. However, in a few weeks warmer weather will be upon us and Qfly numbers will be increasing again.

MVCB has again put money aside to supply bait spray chemical to growers affect by current declared Qfly outbreaks. Growers within 1.5km radius of an outbreak epicentre can expect to receive information on allocation of chemical in the next few weeks. MVCB in conjunction with Victorian DPI will be running Qfly information sessions where affected growers can access bait spray chemical and information on the best application method.

| Area | # Qfly | Action |
|---------------|--------|------------------------|
| Boundary Bend | 3 | Extends Outbreak |
| Barham | 2 | Under Chemical Control |
| Barham East | 2 | Under Chemical Control |
| Barham N East | 3 | Under Chemical Control |

Naturalure Container Collection

To reduce the cost of supplying Naturalure to citrus grow this season grower are asked to return empty Naturalure containers to the Board. If you have empty Naturalure containers please ring the Board office on 03 5051 0500 or Tony Bothroyd on 0407 325934 and collection will be arranged.

Citrus Australia Director Selection

Citrus Australia members have the opportunity to nominate for two vacant Board positions as non-executive directors. The vacancies occur as a result of the constitutional requirement for two directors to retire from office at the conclusion of each Annual General Meeting. Grower director Mr Kevin Parr and independent director Ms Michele Phillips are the two retiring.

Applications must be received by COB 3 August 2012. A Position Description can be downloaded from the Citrus Australia website: www.citrusaustralia.com.au

If the number of nominations received does not exceed the number of vacancies, there is no requirement to hold a ballot. If a ballot is required, voting shall be conducted on a 'first past the post system' as outlined in the constitution.

Nominations can also be made independently by three voting members. Three voting members that wish to make a nomination, independent of the Director Selection Committee, must submit their nomination to the Company Secretary, at least six weeks prior to the AGM, ie. COB Monday 10 September, 2012.

For further information please contact Leonie Burrows on 0427 219151 or lburrows@ncable.com.au

South Africa Citrus Growers Want Four More Years of Statutory Export-Levies

The citrus growing association of South Africa has lodged an application for statutory levies to be implemented again in the citrus enterprise for the next four years. The request - which has been delivered to Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, Tina Joemat-Pettersson, is now being considered by the National Agricultural Marketing Forum.

The present measures lapse on 31 December this year and, should the association's request be successful, the new levies will be implemented again with effect from 1 January 2013.

The suggested new measures are necessary, the association says, because this forces exporters to keep records of market and production information, including record of notes and statements, registration of directly involved shipments and payment of statutory levies, Fresh Plaza reports.

Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201207170332.html>



Cara Cara Net Bag developed for use by MV packing sheds

Cara Cara Net Bags and Stickers

MVCB has developed a Cara Cara net bag header and barcode for use by Murray Valley packing sheds. Local growers and packing sheds approached MVCB to develop the new net bag and a generic sticker to facilitate the marketing of Cara Cara Navels.

The net bag header promotes the additional health benefits stemming from the red coloured flesh. Marketing Cara Caras, especially in supermarkets has been difficult as they look like ordinary Navels. The use of individual fruit stickers proclaiming the fruit as being red fleshed will enable consumers to

quickly identify these oranges as a speciality variety. Thanks to EJT Packers, True Blue Citrus, Michael Keenan and John Keams for their input during the development process.

MADEC/AusChem AgVet Chemical Users Course

MADEC will be running the Aus Chem, AgVet Chemical Users course in August and September. Aus Chem training is especially designed to meet the needs of people working at all levels of involvement with AgVet chemicals. Cost of the Course will be \$240.00.

One day refresher courses will also be held on 31 July, 16 August and 13 September a cost of \$150.00.

If you would like to register for either of these courses please phone David Bush on 5023 7233 or email dbush@madec.edu.au