



MVCB Weekly News

5 February, 2013

www.mvcitrus.org.au

**Murray
Valley
Citrus
Board**

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Qfly Update

Detections of Qfly within the Board's defined area are still low as evidenced by the samples received from Vic DPI last week. The table below sets out the number of Qfly adults and larvae found in the last week.

Area	# Qfly	Action
Buronga	1	Extends Outbreak
Kerang	6	New Outbreak
Tooleybuc Town	1	Extends Outbreak

Buronga and Gol Gol growers should still be applying Naturalure chemical supplied by the Board.

Crop Monitors Refresher Training

As part of the requirements for the export of Australian citrus to Korea, Thailand and China, Registered Crop Monitors are required to undertake regular training in order to verify that orchards have been monitored and managed appropriately.

Due to a number of concerns during last year's season we ask that all Registered Crop Monitors attend a refresher course prior to the commencement of this coming season. At this stage we are only planning to conduct refresher courses for existing crop monitors with a view to some changes/improvements next season. The courses will be coordinated by Citrus Australia and delivered by Steven Falivene.

One of the issues that have been raised is that there is a possibility that not all growers are familiar with the DAFF work plans for each market. I have been told that DAFF will be auditing all growers who supply fruit to these three markets prior to next season; and the workplans will be what they are audited against. While these are usually lengthy documents, the grower requirements sections are only about 2 pages and should be easy to understand.

All packers have been emailed electronic copies of the Citrus Workplans to distribute to their growers. Copies are also available from the MVCB Office, please ring Mary Cannard on 0427 211 890 to obtain a copy.

The Crop Monitors refresher course for Sunraysia will be held at **3pm, Tuesday 12 March 2012** - Murray Valley Citrus Board office, 58 Pine Avenue Mildura.

The courses will also provide an opportunity for you to provide feedback on how the systems can be improved in future years.

John Chavarria CITTgroup Reminder

Sunraysia Citrus Growers and MVCB have secured Spanish citrus expert, John Chavarria to talk to Murray Valley citrus growers on Wednesday 20 February, 2013. The meeting will start at 4:00pm at the MVCB Boardroom, 58 Pine Avenue, Mildura.

John's trip to Australia is funded by Mildura Fruit Company, so thanks to MFC for allowing John time to speak to all MV Growers.

John is a leading citrus technologists and provides high quality, specialist, citrus orchard management advice. He graduated with a Master of Science in Citriculture in Valencia, Spain and worked for several years in the Spanish citrus industry before arriving in Australia in the early 90's to work with Mildura Fruit Company. He has since returned to Spain where he works as a citrus technologist.

Diary Dates:

20 February 2013

John Chavarria Citti group,
4:00pm at MVCB
Boardroom, 58 Pine Av,
Mildura.

John has spent a considerable amount of time in this district and is very familiar with the local citrus industry.

All growers are encouraged to take this opportunity to come along and listen to John speak on a range of topics, ie

- European and American citrus issues;
- Global and local variety trends;
- Crop load and tree health for the coming season.

Mary Cannard will also provide preliminary crop estimates for the Murray Valley at this meeting

Recording Herbicides a Must

Farmers applying herbicides to control weeds must keep a clear record of their chemical use.

The Victorian DPI routinely audits agricultural chemical use and record keeping across Victoria and has found instances where farmers have only recorded fungicides and insecticides used on their crops, but not their herbicide use in and around the crop.

Under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Regulations 2007, it is a legal requirement to record all agricultural chemicals used, not just those used on crops. This includes chemicals used to spray out paddocks prior to replanting and tree-line spraying in orchards.

When using agricultural chemicals, the following records must be made within 48 hours of the use, and kept for two years:

- Product trade name
- The date the product was used
- Application rate of the product
- Crop or commodity that was treated, or the situation in which the product was used
- Extent of use (eg area of land treated, volume of commodity treated)
- Location where the product was used
- Name and address of the user
- Wind speed and direction at time of use

Wind speed and direction must be recorded if using spot sprayers, boom or orchard sprayers but does not need to be recorded for outdoor application of chemicals through hand-held devices, such as a knapsack.

Accurate records provide additional benefits to users. They can demonstrate that due care was taken when applying chemicals, which may help resolve spray drift damage allegations.

A spray diary for recording chemical use is available on the Board's website www.mvcitrus.org.au