

New Miticide Receives Full Registration for Apples and Pears

June, 1997 issue

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. (May 7, 1997)--A new miticide/insecticide for use in apple and pear production received Section 3 registration on May 7 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Pyramite M miticide/insecticide, from BASF Agricultural Products, contains the active ingredient pyridaben, which offers a new class of chemistry to rotate into mite control programs. A chemical compound new to apple and pear growers, pyridaben is currently sold in more than 20 countries worldwide for control of mites and other important insects on a variety of fruits and vegetables.

PYRAMITE works as a contact miticide/insecticide and requires thorough coverage to ensure pests will contact the product. This unique chemistry works as a mitochondrial electron transport inhibitor (METI) to block cellular respiration, causing the pests to lose motile coordination and eventually collapse.

Although PYRAMITE is brand-new to the apple market, it already has gained the confidence of researchers based on several years of field test results.

Jim Steffel, an independent researcher in Hamburg, Pa., conducted trials early in the development of Pyramite miticide/insecticide and was impressed with the contact miticide's performance.

"PYRAMITE was a highly effective product from the very beginning, and it will likely become an integral part of mite control programs in the future," Steffel said.

As part of an ongoing commitment by BASF to product stewardship and worker safety, the 60 percent wettable powder formulation is packaged in 4.4 oz. water-soluble bags. This closed system of water-soluble packaging minimizes mixing/loading exposure and reduces pesticide container disposal. The water-soluble film used represents the most advanced technology available, which means it dissolves simply and readily in water. Growers should refer to the product label for use information.

BASF Agricultural Products, headquartered in Research Triangle Park, N.C., is a unit of BASF Corporation that develops a range of innovative crop protection products and systems that enable growers to be more cost-efficient and increase crop yield potential.

Courtesy of BASF Corporation.

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