

Continued research and development benefits post-harvest disease control

Fruit

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All of us in the industry have a special appreciation for what ends up on the kitchen bench, and the story behind the oval fruit labels proudly adorning them. Growers will experience this more acutely than most. Growers of tropical tree crops understand what goes into delivering a quality product to market, from planning to the concerted effort to get the crop to the point of harvest. At the start of the season, they've diligently taken care of the tree architecture to make sure that the foliar pesticide applications can reach the target and do their job. Weeds will have been managed throughout the season, and fertiliser applications timed to precision with the irrigation schedule, to maximise the crops yield potential. Their advisors are equally dedicated to helping achieve a great harvest and have people enjoy the fruit.

Syngenta has spent a lot of time in packhouses with growers, with a keen interest in helping achieve lasting protection against post-harvest diseases. Post-harvest care is often a case of no news being good news, for growers. When we introduced [SCHOLAR®](#), it was a game changer in its effectiveness against rots and it quickly became the industry standard for good reason. Our continued work in packhouses, following the fruit through to table ripeness, continues to remind us just how effective [SCHOLAR®](#) is.

You might know [SCHOLAR®](#) as its active ingredient fludioxinyl. It really is a case of [SCHOLAR®](#) being more than the sum of its ingredients, it's the countless hours spent in the lab and the field devoted to

helping solve on-farm challenges. Or, the fruit bowl as the case might be.

We at Syngenta are fortunate to be a part of this industry, and take great enjoyment in being among a handful of companies that are truly devoted to the discovery of new molecules, which become the latest fungicide innovations. Syngenta is continuing its work in the field of post-harvest disease control options for Australian fruit growers. It is a very slow process, over multiple seasons as we have to evaluate efficacy and ensure that we can confidently stand by our product claims. This isn't an easy task when one considers that every packhouse and the equipment in use tends to be very different. We also have to evaluate crop safety to make sure the treatments will not damage the fruit and most importantly, we have to conduct highly regulated residue studies so that Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and import tolerances can be established.

In recent years Syngenta has brought two new post-harvest fungicides to market, and unless you oversee these crops you might not know they exist. Avocado growers will be familiar with [GRADUATE® A+](#), it's a unique co-formulation that contains both fludioxonil (Group 12) and azoxystrobin (Group 11), which helps with resistance management in the packing shed. Together these different Modes of Action (MoA) offer the industry a solution with broad spectrum robust activity against the pathogens that cause side rot and stem end rot. Citrus growers also have a new post-harvest solution in [CHAIRMAN®](#), it too is a co-formulation, this time propiconazole (Group 3) has been matched with fludioxonil (Group 12). This combination delivers exceptional control of blue mould, green mould and sour rot, all of which are major post-harvest diseases that can potentially destroy a citrus shipment.

Syngenta is currently working on label extensions for some of our existing post-harvest fungicides creating new solutions for a wide range of tropical fruit. We'll let you know more when we get closer to registration.

At Syngenta we are committed to developing post-harvest solutions for the Australian fruit industry and we value your commitment in supporting our products [SCHOLAR®](#), [GRADUATE® A+](#) and [CHAIRMAN®](#).

For advice on best practice application methods [contact your local Syngenta representative](#), we'll do our best to further support the legacy behind your fruit labels.

ENDS

About Syngenta Australia

Syngenta is a leading agriculture company helping to improve global food security by enabling millions of farmers to make better use of available resources. Through world class science and innovative crop solutions, our 28,000 people in over 90 countries are working to transform how crops are grown. We are committed to rescuing land from degradation, enhancing biodiversity and revitalizing rural communities. To learn more visit www.syngenta.com.au and www.goodgrowthplan.com

Products:

Chairman

Graduate A+

Scholar