



# Cutting Edge / Snykant

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## **FCM control**

There appears to be some confusion in the industry at present regarding control measures for FCM and the associated residue restrictions. The following is intended to clarify the current situation.

In accordance with the current version of "Restrictions on the use of plant protection products on export citrus", dated August 2003, a 185d pre-harvest interval applies to the use of Meothrin (fenpropathrin) on citrus destined for the EU and is particularly relevant to the late season control of FCM.

There has been speculation that Klartan (tau-fluvalinate) could be used as an alternative to Meothrin for the control of FCM, particularly on orchards producing fruit for export to both USA and EU. Please note that Klartan is not registered for this purpose. Consequently it would be an illegal practice. Furthermore, use of Klartan later than the mid-November cut-off date reflected in the "restrictions" document, would result in residues that would make such fruit unacceptable for export to the EU.

All producers and exporters are again invited to first consult the "restrictions" document before applying plant protection products, particularly if it is a new or amended practice. Should any queries relating to residues arise, please make use of the industry MRL advisory services offered by CRI/CGA. Queries regarding routine MRL information should be directed to Paul Hardman 031-7652514, queries relating to specific MRL details, particularly any proposed changes, should be directed to Vaughan Hattingh 021-8828553 and queries relating to orchard usage practices should be directed to the relevant CRI researcher 013-7598000.

Please note that we are currently investigating whether there are any opportunities for continued use of Meothrin on citrus destined for at least some EU Member States. Should any such opportunity be identified, growers will immediately be advised. However, until such time the current situation, as described above, remains relevant.

Vaughan Hattingh