

## Recommended fruit thinning strategies for 2017 season

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Cutting Edge 222 cautioned growers of the potential residue exceedances that could arise from using Corasil-P (Dichlorprop-P) on citrus (except for all orange cultivars) in 2016-17 for export to the EU. Due to these concerns about applying Corasil-P on soft citrus or grapefruit, there is a need to provide information on alternative fruit thinning strategies for soft citrus and grapefruit.

The link to the official label of the two products is supplied below. Please note that for the Corasil-P, the information is now relevant for the oranges only.

- Corasil-P: *Contact your local product supplier for an updated version of the label.*
- Maxim:  
<http://arystalifescience.co.za/files/Maxim-Label-E.pdf>

To address the urgent need of producers on how to manage crop load during the current season, the following summary per citrus type can serve as a guideline of how to address crop load and thinning to increase fruit size this season.

### Oranges

No changes in any of the current crop load manipulation strategies are suggested as both Corasil-P (Dichlorprop) and Maxim (3,5,6 TPA) can be applied. The existing Corasil-P MRL for oranges (0.3 mg/kg) to the EU is adequate to allow for application as per product label.

- Corasil-P: 18-25 mm
- Maxim: 20-24 mm

### Grapefruit

The Corasil-P MRL is problematic for grapefruit exported to the EU.

Maxim is not registered for use on grapefruit.

Recommendations for the current season

- Selective pruning of branches to reduce overall crop load.
- After fruit set and fruit drop period (November) hand thin fruit by targeting bunches with multiple fruit as well as

outside and exposed fruit which would develop sunburn or inadequate colour.

- Potassium levels should be optimum to realise fruit size: 1 to 1.5 % foliar content.

### Soft citrus

The Corasil-P MRL is problematic for soft citrus exported to the EU.

Recommendations for the current season

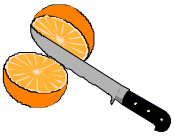
- Maxim can be applied as per detail on the product label for soft citrus orchards.
  - Clementine/Mandarin: 15-18 mm
  - Satsumas: 20-24 mm
- Alternatively, hand thinning after fruit fall in November to December is also strongly recommended to reduce crop load and increase fruit size.
- Selective pruning of branches to reduce overall crop load in order to increase fruit size.
- Potassium levels should be optimum to realise fruit size: 1 to 1.5 % foliar content. It is important to not apply Maxim with potassium nitrate, especially when leaf K levels are within the optimal range, as this might lead to granulation.

### Lemons

Corasil-P and Maxim are not registered are not registered as a thinning agent for lemons and if thinning is deemed necessary hand thinning is suggested after fruit drop period.

### Acknowledgment:

Citrus Technical Association (CTA): Dr Graham Barry, Steve Turner, Ballie Wahl, Dr Stephan Verreyne, Mark Fry, Rynhardt Nel and Piet Van Rensburg.



## Aanbevelings tov uitdun strategieë vir die 2017 seisoen

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Snykant 222 waarsku produsente oor die potensiële gevaar van residu oorskryding wat voort kan spruit uit die gebruik van Corasil-P (Dichlorprop) op sitrus -waarby alle lemoen kultivars uitgesluit is- in 2016-17 uitvoere na die EU. Gegewe die bekommernis oor die gebruik van Corasil-P op pomelo en sagte sitrus, bestaan daar 'n behoefte om inligting in verband met alternatiewe uitdun strategieë.

Die skakels na die produkinformasie is hieronder verskaf, maar let daarop dat die Corasil-P informasie slegs relevant is vir lemoene.

- Corasil-P: *Kontak u plaaslike verskaffer van die produk vir die opgedateerde produkinformasie.*
- Maxim:  
<http://arystalifescience.co.za/files/Maxim-Label-E.pdf>

Die volgende basiese riglyne is saamgestel per kultivar om die behoefte wat bestaan by die produsente om meer inligting t.o.v. oeslading manipulasie en uitdunning om vruggrotte te verbeter aan te spreek.

### Lemoene

Geen verandering word aanbeveel in huidige uitdun-strategie vir alle lemoen kultivars nie want beide Corasil-P (Dichlorprop) en Maxim (3,5,6,-TPA) is toelaatbaar. Die rede is dat daar wel 'n MRL (*Maximum Residue Level*) bestaan vir Corasil-P in die EU (0.3 mg/kg) wat gebruik van die produk toelaat maak soos op die produkinformasie.

- Corasil-P: 18-25 mm
- Maxim: 20-24 mm

### Pomelo's

Dit kan problematies wees om Corasil-P te gebruik itv die MRL op pomelo's wat na die na die EU uitgevoer gaan word.

Maxim is nie vir gebruik op pomelo geregistreer nie.

Aanbevelings vir die komende seisoen

- Geteikende uitdun snoei van takke in die blaardak om die totale oes-lading te verlaag.

- Na afloop van die fisiologiese vrugval periode (November) word dit aanbeveel dat trosse vrugte met die hand uitgedun word. So ook moet die vrugte wat in die vol son sit en sonbrand en swak kleur sal ontwikkel afgepluk word.
- Kalium vlakke moet optimaal gehou word om genoegsame vruggrootte te kry: 1 tot 1.5% blaarinhoud.

### Sagtesitrus

Dit kan problematies wees om Corasil-P te gebruik itv die MRL op sagtesitrus wat na die EU uitgevoer gaan word.

Aanbevelings vir die komende seisoen

- Maxim is vir gebruik op alle sagtesitrus geregistreer.
  - Clementine/Mandaryne: 15-18 mm
  - Satsuma: 20-24 mm
- Kalium vlakke moet optimaal gehou word om genoegsame vruggrootte te kry: 1 tot 1.5% blaarinhoud. Maxim moet nie met Kalium nitrate toegedien word nie, veral as K blaarvlakke naby optimum is, onrede dit kan lei tot granulasie.
- Geteikende uitdun snoei van takke in die blaardak om die totale oes-lading te verlaag om sodoende vruggrotte te verbeter.
- Daar word ook sterk aanbeveel dat vrugte ook met die hand uitgedun word na die natuurlike vrugval periode in November Desember, om oeslading te verminder en so vruggrootte te verhoog.

### Suurlemoene

Beide Maxim en Corasil-P is nie geregistreer vir gebruik op suurlemoene nie. Indien oeslading te hoog is, word hand uitdunning aanbeveel na die natuurlike vrugval periode.

### Erkenning:

Citrus Technical Association (CTA): Dr Graham Barry, Steve Turner, Ballie Wahl, Dr Stephan Verreyne, Mark Fry, Rynhardt Nel and Piet Van Rensburg.

**JOU HEFFING WERK VIR JOU – PRODUSENTE SE HEFFINGS WORD AANGEWEND OM DIE AKTIWITEITE VAN DIE CRI TE BEFONDS**