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Precautionary Notice: Buprofezin (Applaud) and Methiocarb (Mesurol)

Recommended Usage Restrictions for Buprofezin (45 d PHI as registered) and Methiocarb (Not later than the end of January) have been in place to achieve a residue level on the fruit at harvest of below 0.05 ppm. These usage restrictions now require adjustment as the target residue level in the European Union (EU) has been set, by default, at 0.01 ppm (limit of determination).

This particular Cutting Edge notification is required since "90% petal fall" is imminent or has already passed in the northern citrus growing regions. These revised recommendations will also be included in the next edition of the Recommended Usage Restrictions for Plant Protection Products on Southern African Export Citrus.

The Citrus Growers Association made contact with the supplier of Applaud and Mesurol, and in view of the fact that there is insufficient data to demonstrate a shorter pre-harvest interval that will result in a residue level of below 0.01 ppm, the following new recommended usage restrictions now apply:

Buprofezin: Not later than 90% petal fall

Methiocarb: Not later than end of November

CGA and CRI are currently conducting residue breakdown trials to determine whether shorter pre-harvest intervals are possible for both these products. But results of these trials will only be available in 2007.

Yours Sincerely

By email

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