



## **Advisory notice: Orchards potentially exposed to Citrus Black Spot infection during heavy rains experienced in January and February 2021**

Providence Moyo, Jan van Niekerk, Elma Carstens, MC Pretorius, Wayne Mommsen, Paul Fourie, Tankiso Mpholo\* and Vaughan Hattingh  
Citrus Research International (CRI) and

\*Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)

Heavy rains were experienced in some parts of the country during January and February 2021 resulting in some growers, particularly in the Northern regions, not being able to apply citrus black spot (CBS) fungicide sprays on time. This phenomenon could especially have affected lemons, late mandarins and Valencias, which need to be protected until the end of February in the Northern production regions (refer to Cutting Edge 304).

It is a requirement of the Citrus Black Spot Risk Management System (CBS-RMS), for export of citrus to the European Union (EU), that fruit must be protected from CBS infection throughout the fruit susceptibility period. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) will accept CRI-PhytRisk and CBS ascospore trapping data (QMS and Laeveld-Agrochem) in determining the risk associated with CBS in each orchard.

**• If all CBS infection periods during the fruit susceptibility period were protected with fungicide sprays, the orchard(s) can be registered for export to the EU.**

• In the event that fungicide protection gaps exist and CBS infection risk is predicted during these unprotected gaps, fungicides with curative (kick-back) action can be used within 3 to 28 days after the CBS infection period, depending on the curative action of the specific systemic fungicide used. If for example, there is a gap of 3 days or less, certain strobilurins can be applied to ensure protection of fruit from CBS infections. Consult the specific product label on details of curative action.

• If the gap is more than 3 days, then benzimidazole fungicides (benomyl, carbendazim) can be applied and such orchard(s) can be registered for export to

the EU. Benzimidazole fungicides can be used on fruit destined to the EU, but cannot be applied for fruit destined to markets such as South Korea after 90% petal fall.

• The Recommended Usage Restrictions for Plant Protection Products document must be consulted for a full list of markets where restrictions on the use of benzimidazole fungicides are in place. Each fungicide must also be used within the recommendations specified on its label.

This Cutting Edge was written to support growers in making their own risk assessment and deciding whether they want to register their orchards for export of citrus fruit to the EU or not. **It is in the best interest of each grower to voluntarily withdraw any orchard if the required fungicide protection was not provided, rather than put the whole PUC at risk of suspension during DALRRD verification due to non-compliance of an orchard or a CBS interception in the EU.**



## **Kennisgewing: Boorde wat moontlik aan Sitrus Swartvlek infeksies blootgestel kon gewees het weens swaar reën in Januarie en Februarie 2021**

Providence Moyo, Jan van Niekerk, Elma Carstens, MC Pretorius, Wayne Mommsen, Paul Fourie, Tankiso Mpholo\* en Vaughan Hattingh  
Citrus Research International (CRI) en  
\*Departement van Landbou, Grondhervorming en Landelike Ontwikkeling (DALRRD)

In sommige dele van die land was daar swaar reën gedurende Januarie en Februarie 2021, wat daartoe gelei het dat sommige produsente, veral in die Noordelike gebiede, nie betyds Sitrus Swartvlek (SSV) swamdoder bespuitings kon toedien nie. Hierdie verskynsel kon veral suurlemoene, laat mandaryne en Valencias beïnvloed het, wat tot einde Februarie in die Noordelike produksiestreke beskerm moet word (verwys na Snykant 304).

Dit is 'n vereiste van die "Citrus Black Spot Risk Management System (CBS-RMS)" dat vir die uitvoer van sitrus na die Europese Unie (EU), vrugte teen SSV-infeksies gedurende die hele vrugvatbaarheidsperiode beskerm moet word. Die Departement van Landbou, Grondhervorming en Landelike Ontwikkeling (DALRRD) sal CRI-PhytRisk en SSV askospoor-lokval data (QMS en Laeveld-Agrochem) aanvaar vir die bepaling van die risiko verbonde aan SSV in elke boord.

**• As alle SSV-infeksieperiodes tydens die hele vrugvatbaarheidsperiode met swamdoders beskerm was, kan die boord(e) vir uitvoer na die EU geregistreer word.**

• In die geval waar daar gapings in die swamdoderbeskerming is en SSV-infeksieperiodes is gedurende hierdie onbeskermdes periodes voorspel, kan swamdoders met 'n kuratiewe (terugwerkende) aksie binne 3 tot 28 dae ná die SSV-infeksieperiode aangewend word, afhangende van die kuratiewe aksie van die spesifieke sistemiese swamdoder wat gebruik word. As daar byvoorbeeld 'n gaping van 3 dae of minder is, kan sekere strobiluriene toegedien word

om die beskerming van vrugte teen SSV-infeksies te verseker. Raadpleeg die spesifieke produk-etiket vir meer inligting oor die kuratiewe aksie.

• As die gaping langer as 3 dae is, kan bensimidasoel swamdoders (benomyl, carbendazim) toegedien word, en sodanige boord(e) kan vir uitvoer na die EU geregistreer word. Bensimidasoel swamdoders kan gebruik word op vrugte wat bestem is vir die EU, maar kan nie toegedien word op vrugte wat bestem is vir markte soos Suid-Korea, ná 90% blomblaarval nie.

• Die "Recommended Usage Restrictions for Plant Protection Products" moet geraadpleeg word vir 'n volledige lys van markte waar beperkings op die gebruik van bensimidasoel swamdoders bestaan. Elke swamdoder moet gebruik word volgens die aanbevelings wat op die etiket aangedui word.

Hierdie Snykant is geskryf om produsente te help om hul eie risikobepaling te doen en te besluit of hulle hul boorde vir die uitvoer van sitrusvrugte na die EU wil registreer of nie. **Dit is in die beste belang van elke produsent om enige boord vrywillig te onttrek as die vereiste swamdoderbeskerming nie verskaf kan word nie, eerder as om die hele PUC in gevaar te stel deur 'n DALRRD opskorting tydens verifikasie as gevolg van 'n boord wat nie aan die vereistes voldoen nie of deur 'n SSV-onderskepping in die EU.**