

# Monthly Crop



November 2011

Pukekohe Growers  
Supplies Ltd

## Proven curative blight and downy control from Nautile Darren Faire, Northern Regional Manager, Etec Crop Solutions

**Nautile® is the key fungicide every potato and onion grower should now have ready for effective post-infection control of late blight in potatoes and downy mildew of onions.**

First introduced to New Zealand in 2008, **Nautile** (50g/kg cymoxanil + 680g/kg mancozeb) has lived up to its overseas reputation of being an excellent post-infection curative fungicide. In 2009 Etec then gave growers greater choice with a high strength *cymoxanil only* formulation – **Curfew®** (450g/kg cymoxanil). **Curfew** delivers growers all the benefits of **Nautile** but with the flexibility of being able to use it as a tank mix partner with fungicides of their own choice.

The cymoxanil active ingredient present in both **Nautile** and **Curfew**, offers both translaminar and penetrating qualities to provide up to 48 hours curative 'reach-back' activity plus some forward cover against late blight and downy mildew. This sets cymoxanil apart from the considerable number of other fungicide options growers have. The **Nautile** formulation containing mancozeb provides proven 'forward cover' protection – as an additional bonus. Recent 2010 Euroblight ([www.euroblight.net](http://www.euroblight.net)) comparisons have again re-confirmed cymoxanil's strength compared to other blight fungicides when looking at curative activity (See table below.)

Timing of application is critical and growers must always ensure that to get the best out of **Nautile** (or **Curfew**) applications are made as soon as possible after an infection period but before disease symptoms are expressed. For further information on Nautile or Curfew contact your PGSL representative or Darren Faire, Etec Crop Solutions 021 392 740 [dfaire@etec.co.nz](mailto:dfaire@etec.co.nz)

### Euroblight fungicide comparison chart 2010\*

ACTIVE INGREDIENT	TRADENAME	MODE OF ACTION	
		PROTECTANT	CURATIVE
Cymoxanil + mancozeb	Nautile	2	2
Chlorothalonil	Bravo®	2	0
Mancozeb	Dithane®	2	0
Dimethomorph + mancozeb	Acrobat®	2.5	1
Mandipropamid	Revus®	3	1 <sup>1</sup>
Fluazinam	Shirlan®	3	0
Fenamidone + mancozeb	Sereno® <sup>2</sup>	2.5	0

0 = no effect

1 = reasonable effect

2 = good effect 3 = very good effect

<sup>1</sup> In some trials there were indications that the rating was 1.5.

<sup>2</sup> In the New Zealand market Sereno has been replaced by Reason®, a Fenamidone only formulation.

\* Ratings are based on field experiments and the experience of the products performance when used in commercial conditions.

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©Curfew is a registered trademark of Elliott Technologies Ltd

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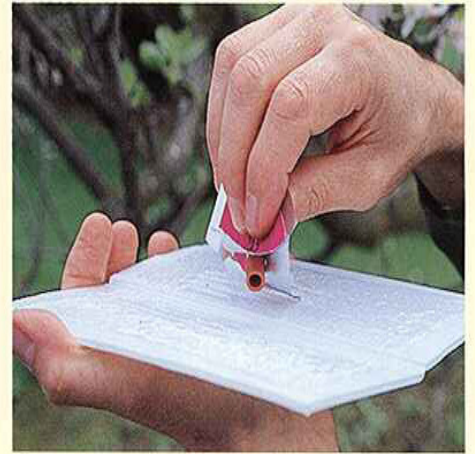
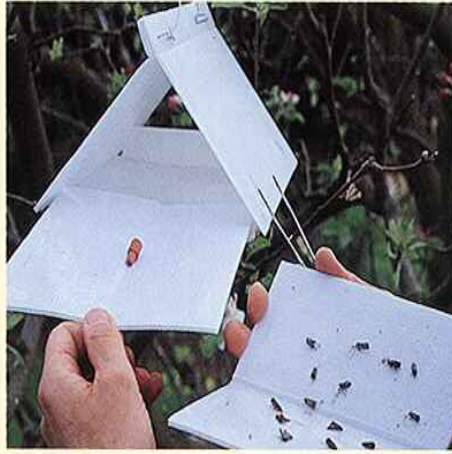
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# Insect monitoring and Pheromone traps

## Gary Graham—PGSL Agronomist reports

Pukekohe Growers Supplies Ltd. have been involved with crop monitoring and pest control for the last 22 years. In that time pest species and pressure have changed in terms of resistance build up to insecticides especially the over used synthetic pyrethroids and organophosphates and to new pest species invading our shores, classic examples are the lettuce aphid and more recently the potato psyllid. While some species require time spent using tried and true methods of physically counting numbers there are becoming more aids to quantify and qualify pest numbers. This ties in with pest resistance management where more and more growers are adopting to some extent IPM strategies and working toward chemical application windows.

Aids to visual assessment are available, yellow or blue sticky traps that catch passing traffic, will give an indication of what insects are around. Beneficial as well as pest species, however, if more that 3 or 4 days lapse between visits it becomes



hard to determine what is what and any dust tends to make identification difficult.

Pheromone traps are well used in the pip and stone fruit sector and are becoming more and more popular with vegetable growers for specific crops, brassicas for white butterfly and diamond back moth. Lettuce for soy looper caterpillar and potatoes for potato tuber moth, however, the PTM monitoring has to some extent been made redundant due to insecticide applications for psyllid.

Pheromone traps work by small rubber caps emitting female mating pheromones, these are species specific and attract male moths of the desired species. Males lured toward the scent come to a sticky end as they are caught on a sticky pad inside the trap. You occasionally get a different species to that targeted on the sticky pad, this is usually due to poor navigation and exceptionally bad luck on the intruder's part, most of those stranded are good for counting.

The short term objectives of Pheromone trapping are to give indications of current numbers of pests and justify chemical applications to satisfy GAP requirements. Longer term, recording numbers and graphing counts will allow data to be collated, and over time establish pest patterns to aid in pest pressure models and prediction, with an improved understanding for localised conditions to give best timings of chemical for maximum impact.

**Pheromones for a number of lepidoptera species are available, please consult PGSL staff for species list.**

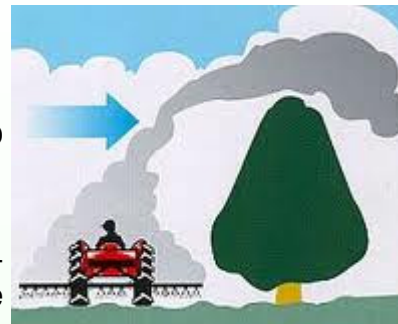
**For vegetable IPM programmes**



# TRAINING PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN MANAGING SPRAY DRIFT

**International experts met at Lincoln University in August to discuss the latest research on spray drift.**

The Drift Reduction Workshop was organised by Lincoln Ventures, and focussed on the formulations, practices and technologies which lead to more accurate and effective agrichemical application.



The three-day workshop included presentations and demonstrations of the latest research about spray drift and the factors that influence the behaviour of agrichemicals as they are applied in the field.

Spray drift is not only the product that goes over the fence, but anything that fails to hit the target plant in the right way. This might seem straight forward, but if you haven't got it right you are probably wasting a lot of time and money.

With a greater understanding of some key principles about how the formulations and technologies work together, agrichemical users can make better decisions on the selection of products, and the set up of the spray gear to minimise drift.

The panel of experts shared their research findings including ways to describe spray quality (the size and characteristics of spray droplets) and how spray droplets behave in the crucial milliseconds between the nozzle and the plant. The use of high speed cameras and computer modelling enables the accurate measurement of spray drift and provides an opportunity to compare combinations of formulations, equipment and practices that reduce spray drift.

The experts identified that there was a need to improve the level of understanding of the factors that influence spray drift, and that agrichemicals training programmes such as GROWSAFE are vital in getting this information from the research programmes out to agrichemical users.

The New Zealand horticulture industry has good training and extension programmes with high rates of certification under Growsafe and the National Certificate qualifications.

There is now an opportunity to draw some of this research work into these training programmes to ensure that growers can access up to information in a clear and simple manner.

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**Don't forget we are now open Saturday's  
here in Pukekohe  
8am—12pm**

- The presence of both forms of Nitrogen (Ammonium & Nitrate)
- Provides a response in both warm and cool soil temperatures
- Ammonium is less prone to leaching than nitrate nitrogen
- 26% Nitrogen  
7% NO<sub>3</sub> Nitrate—N  
14% Sulphur as Sulphate—S
- Granular solid fertiliser, surface treated for improved transport and storage
- Consistent particle size for even spread (90% between 2-5mm)

# ASN

## AMMONIUM SULPHATE NITRATE

### Year round activity....

- ASN does not volatilise therefore can be spread whenever it suits without fear of gaseous losses
- ASN is fast acting needing minimal water to dissolve
- Instantly plant available

### Activated Magnesium is also available

- Very soluble
- Immediately plant available to cover short falls in soil magnesium content

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