

The Dynamic DUO for sunburn protection pay dividends



“The establishment of Screen Duo and Photon 500SG as frontline management tools has been a game changer for tree fruit growers in recent years” said Mr Jim Lyons of Agricrop. “Growers who are targeting improved productivity or better fruit sizing and finish, have found the combination of these products to be the ideal program over the summer months” he said.

“Two applications of Screen DUO early in the season give the leaves of the tree a reflective coating of Kaolin to keep the tree cooler and reflect harmful UV rays. A program application of Photon 500SG can then be implemented to allow ongoing heat stress mitigation without the issue of managing kaolin residue on the finished fruit”.

Mr Lyons said that “Photon 500SG is a clear compound which leaves no residue. It triggers an enzymatic response within the plant to allow it to tolerate increased levels of abiotic stress. It is compatible with all other crop inputs so can be applied in conjunction with the normal spray program”.



Screen Duo treated Granny Smith apples



Untreated



Photon treated Pink Lady apples with no residue

“Unlike some Kaolin products Screen DUO is an easy-mix micro prill formulation. The micro prill is not a sharp structure and therefore will not deter predators”.

Both Screen DUO and Photon 500SG have been tried and proven in tree fruit markets across Australia, South Africa and South America, as a cost effective way to minimize heat stress and sunburn damage to crops.

Graph 1 shows that Screen Duo was able to protect a range of different apple varieties from sun damage over seven separate seasons which ensured a significantly higher % of rating 0 & 1 apples and increased profit for the growers involved in the trials.

Graph 2 shows how effectively Screen Duo was able to protect Pink Lady apples in Victoria, from heat stress and sun damage respectively.

Graph 3 shows how in three separate seasons, on three different apple varieties, Photon protected against heat stress and sun damage to achieve significant improvements in overall yield and Graph 4 highlights how application of Photon consistently improved the percentage of apples rated 0 & 1 across six seasons and four different apple varieties.

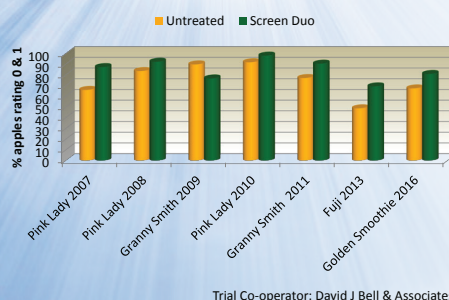
“These results prove that both Screen and Photon are effective at protecting the range of apple varieties in the trials from heat stress and sun damage thereby ensuring higher returns per hectare for growers”.

In summary, a combination program will provide ease of handling and mixing, and fewer residues on fruit, while delivering excellent productivity outcomes for growers.



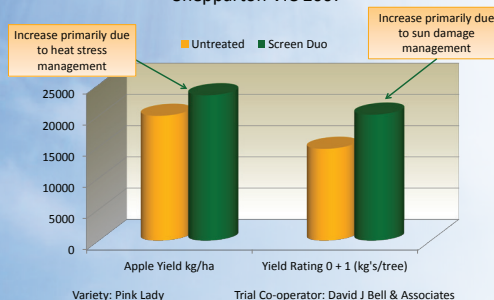
Untreated Pink Lady apples with sun damage

Graph 1: % apples at rating 0 & 1
Victoria 2007 - 2016



Trial Co-operator: David J Bell & Associates

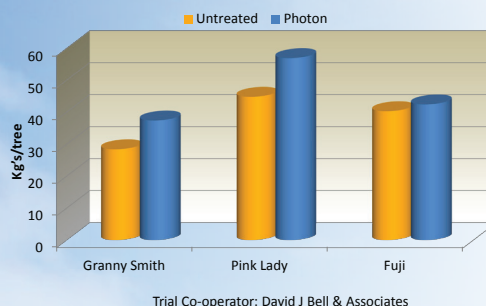
Graph 2: Apple Yield & Yield Rating
Shepparton VIC 2007



Variety: Pink Lady Trial Co-operator: David J Bell & Associates

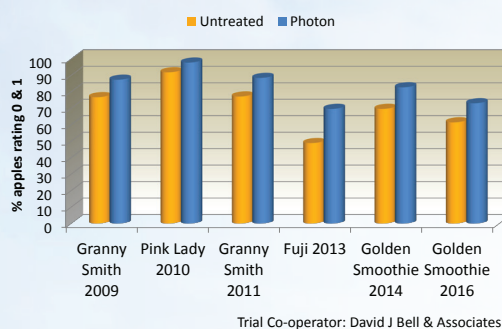
Graph 3: Apple Yield (kg's/tree)

3 different apple varieties
VICTORIA (2009 - 2015)



Trial Co-operator: David J Bell & Associates

Graph 4: % apples at rating 0 & 1
Victoria 2009 - 2014



Trial Co-operator: David J Bell & Associates

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