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DU-WETT ENHANCES COVERAGE

Testimonial from James Gaffney Orchard Manager Bonview Farms and Garfield Orchard

Background

James Gaffney has been growing apples for 17 years in Southern Victoria. He supplies apples to major supermarkets. The apples go into the Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane markets and further afield.

It's a huge relief to conquer black spot

"Black spot is a major problem in our area. It spreads so easily. Any little bit of rain, it just washes off from one apple to the next apple. Managing it is expensive. You're looking at labour costs, extra spraying and hand thinning.

When we added Du-Wett to the fungicide, it spread over the whole leaf. It was just a really nice solid coverage. There was no product dripping off onto the ground, so nothing was wasted.

Getting on top of the black spot has been remarkable. It's a huge relief. I can plan better and not have to react to new outbreaks."

Security is a great feeling

"This season has shown me what the addition of Du-Wett can do. I've got security. I didn't have to add in extra spraying to fix any problems. It was great to feel confident that what you've done is going to work."

It's all about the spread

"Without Du-Wett, the water droplets don't spread well, so you don't get thorough coverage. If we miss a few leaves with black spot, that can lead to a huge problem. If you've got 2% infection, it turns out to be 10%. And that's the 10% you see, not the other 20% you can't see.



With Du-Wett you get a more even spread. It enabled the fungicides to provide effective control against black spot and powdery mildew."

Targeted control

"I think Du-Wett has a huge role in getting better spread from the sprays you use. Obviously with pests and diseases, you want to try and cover the whole leaf instead of just part of it. Du-Wett really helps target the problem areas."

Save your crop, save your labour

"Time is always a pressure for us. This year has been a really wet year. It was an awful time for diseases; black spot and powdery mildew. Pretty much every seven days we're putting something on. It's been hectic.

When we did the monitoring, I was very pleased. We've managed to keep the whole orchard very clean. If the black spot or powdery mildew got ahead of us, we'd have to double up our spraying routine for four weeks. I can't spare the staff to do that when it's a problem that shouldn't happen anyway."



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Crop protection sure beats the alternative

"It's definitely worth spending a little bit of money to prevent disease problems. The alternative, it's just not pretty. With black spot or powdery mildew, it's very expensive and very hard to get rid of it once you've got it."

Visible results and peace of mind

"After adding Du-Wett, I could see every leaf was covered. It was quite extraordinary. It was shiny, obviously with the Du-Wett. We did dye tests and yeah, it was great coverage. I just felt safer knowing it was on the tree than not.

A week after spraying I did the monitoring again. I saw nothing, no black spot, no powdery mildew. The leaves and fruit were totally clean. It was extraordinary."

It made a huge difference

"Using Du-Wett was the only change I made this year. I kept the spraying rates the same. The fungicide products were the same. The frequency of spraying didn't change. It was an excellent result. It made a huge difference."

I'll be using Du-Wett again next year

"Du-Wett got us through that danger time for fungal diseases, October and November. It gave us the crop protection we needed. So that's as plain as it is. I won't have any reservations using it next year."

Superior absorption of micronutrients

"We use a lot of micronutrients, magnesium and calcium. With Du-Wett, we have much more certainty we have covered the whole crop. It's a great way to get the most value out of the products you generally apply."

Dead easy to use

"Mixing and measuring was simple. Dead easy. It mixed fine with the fungicides I use. It didn't foam up. Obviously, you have to get your mixing rates right and the speed you travel down the orchard will impact your coverage. But it's all pretty straight-forward."

Not just another wetter

"I've seen Du-Wett around for a while. I thought it was just another wetting agent. But not at all. After using it this year, I'm convinced. It has wide application for improving the coverage and effectiveness of foliar sprays. Whether it's for pests, diseases or adding nutrients, it's definitely going to be in my shed next year."

The proof is in the picking

"It's March. We've nearly finished picking Gala and Fuji. And we're just waiting on the Kanzi*. The apples we've picked, they're all fantastic."

To other growers, I'd say ...

"It's just an all-round great product to put in your tank, an extra bit of insurance. I found it easy to use. It definitely works. It saved me on time and money. It helped protect the crop and saved a lot of worry. I'd definitely give it a go."

The information provided herein may include extracts from the product label and does not constitute the complete directions for use. READ THE PRODUCT LABEL THOROUGHLY BEFORE OPENING OR USING DU-WETT

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