

**TOP
FRUIT**



agrovista
fruit



Crop load adjustment

Blossom and
fruitlet thinning
for top fruit

*growing through
innovation*

Seasonal crop load adjustment is essential in achieving the best quality fruit at the required size. The earlier the correct crop load is achieved, the better the fruit quality will be.

This is achieved through a combination of thinning techniques - blossom, chemical fruitlet and hand.

Blossom thinning

Apply Thiotrac 300 during bloom to burn the flower parts ahead of pollination and fertilisation. For Gala, the best quality fruit is produced on the older spurs, as fruit produced on one-year-old wood will be smaller and of poorer quality.

The objective is to allow enough early bloom to set and then to begin regular applications of Thiotrac 300 to prevent later bloom from setting. The number, timing and frequency of applications will be determined by pollination conditions and the speed at which flowers are opening. Blossom thinning is only effective on open flowers and on flowers open for less than one day.

Important:

- Adjust the concentration of the product and water volume according to the weather conditions.
- Apply early in the day when conditions are cooler so that the drying time is extended.

This requires careful planning and should be discussed in advance with your Agrovista agronomist.

Fruitlet thinning using Brevis

Brevis is an innovative fruit thinning solution for apples and pears. Active ingredient metamitron disrupts the photosynthetic process for 7-10 days post application.

Timing	When the fruit size is 10-12mm
Dose rate	1.1 - 2.2kg/ha
Applications	Maximum of 2 applications: 1st at 8mm fruitlet 2nd at 12-14mm fruitlet

Brevis Stewardship

- Do not tank mix
- Leave a 7 day interval for oily formulations and SDHI fungicides
- Do not apply to wet leaves
- High rates can cause over thinning on M9
- Do not use on young orchards
- Aim to apply between 10°C and 25°C
- Night temperatures above 10°C can cause over thinning
- Rainfast 2 hours after application
- Use a water volume of 1000-1500 l/ha
- Do not apply after a period of cloudy weather

Fruitlet thinning using MaxCel

MaxCel is effective in adjusting crop-load in a single, rapid operation if the (spring) temperatures are suitable. Active ingredient 6-benzyladenine is a growth regulator, which promotes cell division within growing areas of the tree.

From bloom to fruit set, energy demand exceeds supply. MaxCel shifts the sink:source relationship, enhancing competition between fruit and vegetative growth. This causes the weakest fruit to be shed and the strongest to remain.

Timing	When the fruit size is 10-12mm
Dose rate	0.75 litres per 100 litres
Water volume	1000 l/ha
Weather	Most effective when temperatures 2-3 days post application exceed 18°C
Varieties	Suitable for all varieties

Hand Thinning

The final adjustment of crop load and fruit quality is achieved through hand thinning.

A well-timed blossom thinning and/or chemical fruitlet thinning programme will help to mitigate what could be a costly hand thinning operation.



Call us on 0115 939 0202,
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