#ForOurGrowers

agrovista
fruit

Integrated Pest Management

Control pests, boost pollination, and improve plant growth and crop resilience

The Agrovista Fruit Team recognises the benefits of regular and thorough crop monitoring, in order to optimise inputs and outputs.

In doing so, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) has been a key component in our joined up approach, and a passion for the team, for which we have gained a nationwide reputation in all fruit crops.

Alex Radu
Agrovista Fruit Technical Manager

A guide to Integrated Pest Management

In this guide, you'll learn how we combine diligent crop monitoring, the latest technical innovations, and biological control methods to improve crop health and deliver high-quality Class 1 fruit. Our approach supports both sustainable, profitable yields and environmental health.

We also help farms implement and refine key Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices, including:

- **Perfect pollination** with Koppert biological solutions
- **Biocontrols** for soft fruit and top fruit
- **Soil health** and unlocking your soils potential
- **Application machinery** with the Natutec drive
- **Aurea TreeScout** blossom and vigour mapping
- **Fruit Insight** our online pest and disease forecasting service and weather info portal
- **Wildflower mixtures** to support beneficial insects and biodiversity

Perfect pollination

Pollinators such as bees are essential for fruit production, but sometimes nature needs a helping hand.

By working with Koppert UK, we provide high-quality pollinators to supplement natural colonies, ensuring effective pollination and fruit set across indoor and outdoor crops. We also recommend their use in pears and cherries.

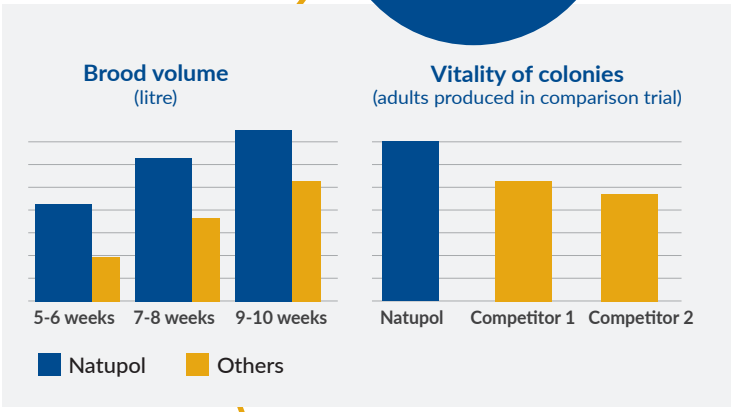
Koppert's Natupol Bombus terrestris audax colonies are supplied ready for spring flowering and are suitable for a wide range of crops.

Worker bees are released to pollinate, with additional workers emerging in the following weeks from a strong brood within the hive.

The hives are designed around bumblebee vision, making them easier to locate and helping to improve pollination efficiency.

Natupol

Best value pollination solution, proven to outperform competitors.



Koppert

Natupol Excel: high performance pollination

Specifically developed for crops with a high number of flowers per m^2, crops grown under artificial light, reduced daylight conditions or in warmer environments.

Natupol booster

Developed specifically for outdoor crops requiring high powered supplementary pollination over a short period of time, this audax hive contains super mature colonies for maximum activity, and a life of 4 weeks.

Biocontrols

Biocontrol products use natural enemies to manage pests, reducing reliance on chemical interventions.

Key beneficials, such as parasitic wasps and hoverflies, play an important role in naturally regulating pest populations in fruit crops.

As part of our commitment to IPM, Agrovista offers a range of effective biocontrol solutions from Koppert UK.

Aphiscout - Controlling aphids

This 'one product' solution from Koppert contains five different parasitoid wasps, targeting a wide range of aphid species affecting soft fruit crops. The parasitoids locate aphids and lay their eggs within them, stopping the aphid lifecycle and allowing the next generation of beneficials to emerge.

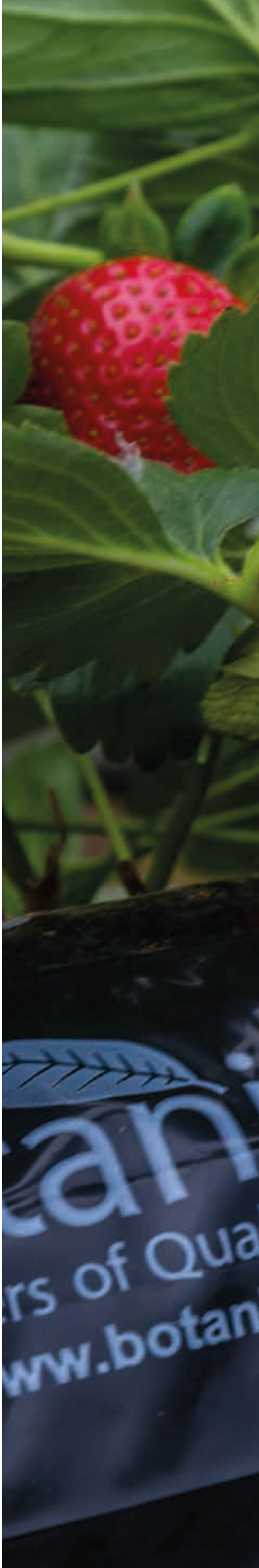
Syrphidend - Controlling aphids

This biological control contains hoverfly pupae that develop into active adults within the crop. The adult hoverflies lay their eggs directly into aphid colonies, ensuring targeted control. Once hatched, the larvae actively feed on aphids, reducing populations and helping to break the pest lifecycle.

Thripex - Controlling thrips

Effectively controlling thrips is becoming increasingly difficult for British growers due to the lack of suitable chemical control options. Therefore, adopting an integrated approach is crucial, including the introduction of biocontrol agents.

Thripex by Koppert contains predatory mite Neoseiulus cucumeris - the 'backbone' of thrips control. An initial introduction is recommended for early in the season before flowering, with predatory mites then released over a six week period.



Koppert

Biological solutions to help you control common pests on soft fruit crops

Spidex - Two spotted spider mite control

Two spotted spider mites cause considerable damage - mottled leaves and early leaf loss in strawberry and raspberry crops.

Spidex by Koppert, Phytoseiulus persimilis, provides effective control of two spotted spider mites when used preventatively and at the first sign of the pest.

The product works by releasing predatory mites, Phytoseiulus persimilis, which then feed on all stages of spider mites. These predatory mites pierce eggs and consume the contents, whilst also attacking adult spider mites.

Biocontrol products reduce reliance on conventional insecticides and, with no post-harvest interval, provides greater flexibility in application timing for growers.

Nematodes – Codling moth control

Beneficial nematodes offer a natural and effective solution for controlling codling moth.

Applied at key timings, these microscopic organisms actively seek out and infect codling moth larvae, helping to break the pest lifecycle and reduce the pest pressure.

Natutec Drive

The Natutec Drive® is Koppert's latest machinery innovation.

This patented system is used to apply Swirski-Mite (Amblyseius swirskii)®, Thripex *(Neoseiulus cucumeris)*, Anso-Mite *(Amblyseius andersoni)*® and Spidex *(Phytoseiulus persimilis)*® to polythene tunnel strawberry crops. It is attached to a custom-made frame that can attached to a tractor, which is driven between the strawberry table-top.

The basic system works on a revolving 60 litre drum, which dispenses the predators and carrier material into a hopper, and onwards, via several delivery tubes, to the crop canopy.

The application process is controlled from a touch-screen inside the tractor cab, by simply selecting the product name and the rate of application required.

The Natutec Drive® is supplied on a lease hire basis.

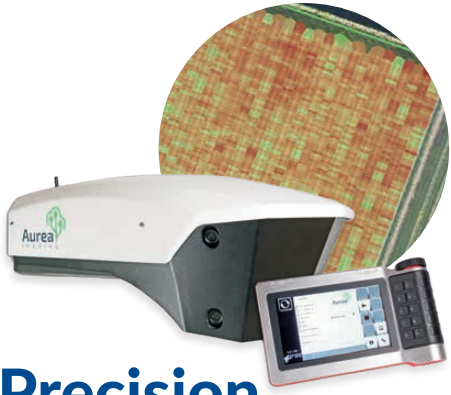
Soil health

As well as integral to the future of our planet, soil health is at the heart of sustainable cop protection - helping plants to achieve their potential, protecting watercourses, and recycling organic matter.

Agrovista Soil Health is for all areas of our portfolio including fruit, and focuses on three key soil properties - chemical, physical, and biological, all of which contribute to the yield potential of a crop.

The service provides a comprehensive soil health report including practical solutions to help growers manage soils for the benefit of farm profitability and soil stability.

Soil health should be a priority for farms and together with Agrovista precision services will have a positive effect on crops.



Precision crop mapping

Aurea blossom and vigour mapping are established services that make use of drones or Aurea's TreeScout to quickly identify areas needing attention, enabling targeted, tree by-tree treatment.

With the help of Aurea Imaging, we can access precision orchard management solutions that enable tree-by-tree applications on farm, improving orchard uniformity and cropping. The orchards mapped using drones or the TreeScout tractor mounted sensor can be treated with precision applications for blossom thinning, fruit set, fruitlet thinning and managing vigour.

The system helps reduce labour, optimise yields and cut costs by enabling management at the individual tree level rather than the field level, addressing localised issues and avoiding unnecessary applications, which also benefit the orchard environment.

The new Fruit density model was introduced recently to help farms make better yield estimates, optimise harvest planning, logistics, and sales.

Wildflower mixtures

Upgrade your IPM strategy with our bespoke wildflower seed mixtures, designed to support beneficial insects and enhance biodiversity in fruit systems.

Tailored for SFI options, including specialist IPM mixes, these carefully selected blends help create a more resilient, natural balance in your fruit crops.

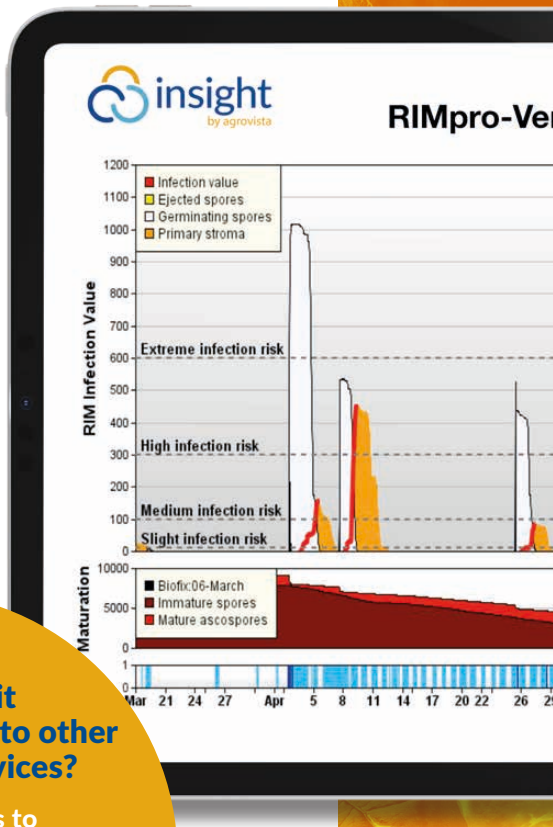
Speak to your Agrovista fruit agronomist to find the right mixture for your specific situation.

Fruit Insight

The most comprehensive online pest and disease forecasting service for fruit growers

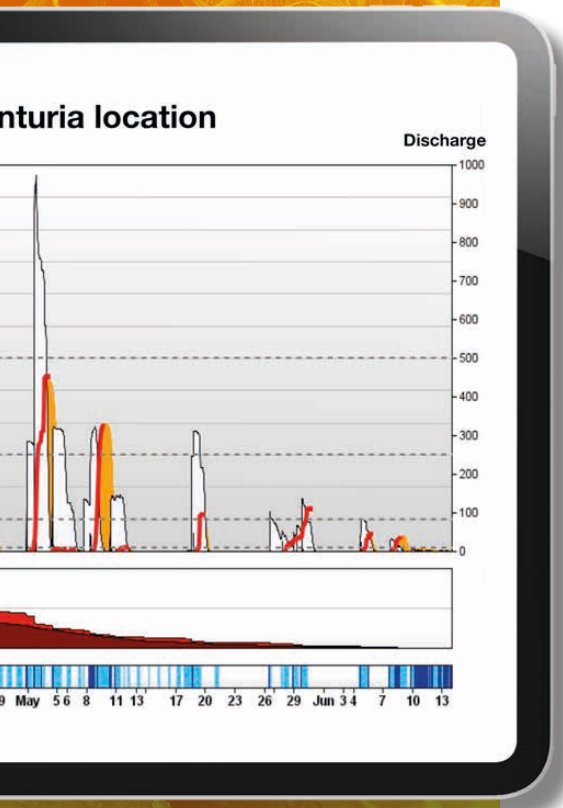
Fruit Insight uses the latest technology to provide live weather data, coupled with Rimpro disease prediction software to gain vital information helping growers take a renewed approach to sustainable crop protection and potential risks.

Available on the Agrovista Insight app. Updated every 30 minutes allowing you to maximise control and minimise your costs.



What makes Fruit Insight different to other subscription services?

- Include text alerts to major events
- Telephone access to an Agrovista agronomist
- Low subscription costs
- Free delivery tracking for Agrovista customers



insight
by agrovista

- Reduce residues
- Reduce input costs
- Time applications to perfection
- Avoid unnecessary applications
- Comply with assured produce schemes
- Maximise product efficacy and efficiency

A subscription to Fruit Insight costs a fraction of the cost of one spray round on a small farm

Can you afford not to try it?

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