

Pristine results for apple and pear growers

New claims recently added to Nufarm's Pristine® label will mean more options for Australian apple and pear growers.

"We now have a registered option for alternaria control and a reduced withholding period in apples. Plus pear growers now have a new fungicide option for black spot control," said Nufarm Australian horticulture manager Guy Perriman. "It's great news."

New claims for the Pristine label include the addition of black spot (scab) control for pears, and alternaria leaf spot and alternaria fruit spot control in apples. It adds a reduced harvest withholding period (WHP) of 14 days for both crops, and a buffer zone of 60 metres downwind from aquatic and wetlands for ground application (aerial application is not permitted).

"Pristine was launched a few years ago to control black spot and powdery mildew in apples, and has been adopted well into growers' spray programs. Now these new label claims makes it even more useful," he continued.

"The beauty of having these two crops registered for Pristine is that in some areas it is quite common for an orchard to be growing both. It means that one product fits more than one part of the operation. And with two actives from different fungicide Groups, Pristine can help growers with resistance management as part of their spray programs. "

Pristine is a co-formulation containing 252g/kg boscalid (Group 7) and 128g/kg pyraclostrobin (Group 11).

"The new label additions have initially come about to address the industry's need for effective alternaria control in apples. Ongoing research and development into Pristine, pursued over the past few years, obtained the necessary data to support the application," Guy said.

"At the same time we were able to achieve reduced withholding periods for the crops, which means growers can apply Pristine closer to harvest to get the benefits for both in-crop disease control and for those that can infect the fruit post-harvest.

"Ultimately, it means that growers have more options when it comes to disease control with greater flexibility."