



Macadamias - variety H816

Exceptional return on investment

Rhino High Tech - retains strong peduncle to reduce nut drop

Rhino's ability to help crops retain a strong peduncle can dramatically improve profitability in macadamias, given the high prices currently being achieved.

Two varieties were chosen: a higher yielding (A203) and lower yielding (H816). The objective was to increase the percentage of set nuts through to harvest maturity, and show the results obtained in orchard crops with Rhino High Tech can be extended to nuts.

Result:

The lower yielding variety (H816) had a 15.3% yield increase

- Exceptional return of income of 49:1 (extra \$5,544/ha with investment of \$112/ha)
- 15.3% improvement in nut yield above control

H816 has several constraints which culminate in a low yield. Through the addition of 2 foliar sprays of Rhino at the critical stages either side of nut setting, we have shown an exceptional return on investment to make this variety much more profitable.

It is worth noting Variety A203 did not receive the same outstanding results with Rhino. This variety is higher yielding, so it is likely there was not enough energy available for the tree to produce more nuts. We expect this variety would need Bombardier for energy plus 3 sprays of Rhino to improve yield. We will trial this option.

What Rhino does

At fruit set when energy requirements are at their greatest, Rhino promotes optimum cell division. The result is a stronger peduncle which results in less abscising due to stress accumulation, and therefore higher yields.

Trial Details

Trial was approximately 30 hectares. Rhino High Tech was used as a foliar application either side of nut setting in varieties A203 & H816. Rhino was foliar applied through grower's Concentrate Volume Air-blast sprayer, as a side-by-side treatment design. With blocks of 8 hectares (approx. 2500 trees); treatments applied with Rhino High Tech, then untreated alongside. A203 is a later flowering variety than H816, therefore there was split applications coinciding for both varieties, of 2 weeks difference in timing.

Rhino High Tech can be used with standard fungicide treatments.

Bundaberg Trial photos

