

Malathion Use on Blueberries in the Pacific Northwest

Teung,

Below is the text from our May response. Again, the lower 1.2 or 1.25# ai/A rate is not effective for the control of aphids in PNW blueberry production when malathion is used alone. Growers are asking that EPA retain the 2# ai/A rate for blueberries. Growers can get by with 2 applications per season unless they lose diazinon. If that happens then they will need 3 applications per season. -
- Jane

Blueberries

Growers are concerned about EPA's proposal to reduce the allowable application rate for EC and WP formulations of malathion on blueberries. When malathion is used in a tank mix the lower rate is not a problem; however, in some situations, malathion is used alone for aphid control. When the product is used alone, growers require a use rate of 2 # ai/A. In their experience, the 1.2 # ai/A rate being proposed by EPA is not efficacious for aphid control in blueberries when used alone. Adequate control of aphids is essential because aphids transmit viruses to blueberries. No comments were received on EPA's proposals to limit applications to three per season, to establish a 7-day retreatment interval, or to require a 25-foot buffer for aerial applications. Growers are asking that 2 # ai/A be allowed for the use of EC and WP formulations of malathion on blueberries.

Jane M. Thomas
[Pacific Northwest Comment Coordinator](#)
[Pesticide Notification Network Coordinator](#)
Pest Management Resource Service
Washington State University Tri-Cities
2710 University Drive
Richland, WA 99354
phone: 509-372-7493
fax: 509-372-7491

The Western IPM Center is headquartered in the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Building at 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618.