



May 2014

Upcoming Events



Critical Windows in Grape Disease Management Webinar

Michelle Moyer, PhD - Assist. Professor,
Dept. of Horticulture, WSU

Monday, May 5th
10am - 11am

Presented by OVS & RP

*Learn more & register
by visiting L.I.V.E!*

OVS Container Recycling Day



Saturday, June 14th
OVS McMinnville
8am - Noon

- All jugs & buckets must be triple-rinsed
- Labels, caps and metal handles must be removed
- NO BOXES

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Why consider Using Organic Biologicals with Conventional Fungicides?



Many of you growing organically are likely already familiar with and have enjoyed the benefits of using biological products that we offer such as Regalia and Actinovate for disease control. These products have proven to be a great tool in our basket providing protection against mildew and botrytis infection. With 4 hour REI and 0 day PHI, safe and friendly products like Regalia are commonly used with organic growers,

and are increasingly being included in some conventional spray programs as they provide a safe, effective, and quite affordable option. Earlier this year I attended a technical presentation where rice growers were experimenting with adding small doses of biologicals (Regalia in this case) with lower application rates of their primary systemic inputs. From what I understand they only have a small number of options for the rice market and are commonly finding a fast developing problem with resistance. The report showed that initial trials have found that by adding a small amount of biologicals to the tank, they have improved efficacy of the systemic and lowered their rate of resistance.

To confirm more details I contacted Steven Whitesides Ph.D. who works for Marrone Bio Innovations to see what more he could tell me about the results of their trials.

“We are gathering more evidence that when Regalia is applied with other fungicides, not only is disease control improved but overall plant health is also improved. There appears to be key application timings of Regalia in many crops that boost yields and grades of the harvestable products. Regalia is an effective resistance management tool when alternated or tank mixed with fungicides of different FRAC (*Fungicide Resistance Action Committee*) classifications. With certain fungicide FRAC groups, there is a consistent synergistic response in disease control and yield benefits.”-Steven Whiteside Ph.D.

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Results Partners Launches New Website!

After much anticipation, **Results Partners** launched their new website at www.resultspartners.com last month. Visitors to the site can learn more about the services provided by the Vineyard Development & Management company as well as their experienced and diversified management team.



Kevin and Carla Chambers Moving On

May will be the last month the Chambers will be employed by OVS/RP. After 16+ years at OVS/RP, they are going to focus on developing their new property near Amity and engage other opportunities. In the early years of OVS/RP ownership, the Chambers and their business partner Dean Forseth, transitioned OVS/RP into an employee-owned company. During the first decade of ownership, they gifted nearly 1/3 of the business to the associates. This transition was completed in 2009, when the employee trust purchased the remaining ownership. "We believe employee ownership attracts high quality staff, willing to provide exceptional customer service, which in turn fuels company growth," Carla says. During their years at OVS, company sales grew tenfold. Kevin served as co-CEO for 11 years, then sole CEO for 3 years before passing the baton to Matt Novak. The past two years Kevin has primarily served as an agronomist. Kevin will continue to serve as a member of the Board of Directors. Carla's work at OVS began in accounts payable, then front-counter customer service, followed by ag supplies management. She's ended her OVS career with responsibility for trellis purchasing, where sales have more than doubled in the last two years. Carla attributes OVS success to management's emphasis on bringing new and innovative ideas to the specialty ag crop customer base. "Our industry involvement in research, education and infrastructure has supported our customers in ways unique among retailers" she says, "and many of our loyal customers understand the important value of those contributions."



Carla references the 2013 Wine Industry Persons of the Year award she and Kevin recently received as recognition of OVS and RP's contributions to the wine industry. In 2013, she and Kevin sold their beloved Resonance Vineyard to Maison Louis Jadot of Burgundy. Kevin explained, "This sale allowed us to expand our farming operations. We're enjoying starting over and using all our knowledge and experience to transition from growing Christmas trees to farming cider apples and wine grapes using permaculture concepts. We want to create a legacy for our children and grandchildren, as well as serve as an example of how farming can evolve into the future."

Kevin is also doing mergers and acquisitions work, primarily in the grape and wine industries, but also in broader agriculture. He stated, "This is an exciting time for Pacific Northwest agriculture. The world is at our door step." Carla also plans to spend time serving the local non-profit communities. She's an

experienced grant writer and has brought in over half a million dollars in federal, state, county and foundation dollars to the area. She was once named Yamhill County Volunteer of the Year by First Federal Savings & Loan's community recognition program. "I recently joined the Board of Juliette's House and I'm also assisting with the merger of three community groups serving Yamhill and Carlton," she says. "The future looks full of opportunity," Carla says. "Time to farm, time to help with agriculture development, time to contribute through non-profit work and more time to be with our three grandchildren."

*Thank you Kevin and Carla for your
many years of service to OVS!*



Timings for Botrytis Sprays

Why do we recommend spraying at early bloom for botrytis when we don't see the disease until late season? If the late season rains are what brings the botrytis out in full force, why not wait until we know what kind of harvest season we will have, and how much botrytis pressure we will encounter?

Botrytis spores are ubiquitous, and will affect most fruits under the right conditions, but grapes, depending on the variety, generally are very susceptible to botrytis or "bunch rot". The grape cluster provides a great place for botrytis spores to hide. Usually some injury to the fruit is necessary for a botrytis infection to begin. This injury can be as simple as the berries being dislocated as they expand in the cluster, cracking due to rain, insect damage, or other physical injury. Spores trapped inside the cluster quickly begin to invade these wounds and infect the fruit.

Protective sprays applied at the bloom stage are key to protecting the fruit later in the season. Most botrytis materials have little to no movement within the plant, and therefore, must physically contact all parts of the cluster to provide protection. At early bloom the flower clusters are open, and the canopy is not as dense. Making sure the canopy is open is very important for these early sprays to be effective. Leaf pulling in the cluster zone is very helpful both to keep the clusters dry, and allowing the fungicide to cover all parts of the cluster.

Spraying a combination of Flint (2 oz), and Scala (9 Oz) at early bloom, and an application of Elevate (1 #) and Vivando at 10oz at fruit set will provide good protection for the developing fruit, and reduce the potential for infection later in the season.

Prior to bunch closure we recommend Meteor 4L (Indioproline) at 2 pints per acre to complete the protective program for botrytis. Alternating these distinct modes of action is good resistance management strategy, and provides excellent control of botrytis bunch rot.

Sprays at veraison, and pre-harvest only protect the exterior of the clusters, but are still important when cooler late season rains extend harvest and fruit begins to soften. Vanguard, with a 7 day pre harvest interval, and Elevate with zero day PHI are good late season materials to consider.



Jon Meadors, OVS Agronomics (Southern Oregon)

Wire Stand Round-Up



The Good News: Our wire vendors rely on the "honor system" and no longer require that we charge customers for wire stands.

The Bad News: These same vendors are now running extremely low on stands, and have asked that we reach out to our customers with the request to have all empty stands returned to OVS soon.

Using Organic Biologicals - cont'd

Would this same concept work on our grapes and berries? This is formally unclear at this time, but Regalia has already done some trials using full label rates of 1-2qts per acre and what they found is it does indeed improve the AI (active ingredient) performance and protects against disease resistance.

As bloom draws nearer and since we know that our bloom sprays for mildew and botrytis are commonly recognized as a critical spray for early protection against outbreak. It makes sense that the timing of such sprays being incorporated with a small amount of a biological input may likely not just improve our systemic protection, but also improve the plants own natural ability to fend off disease pressure. At a minimal rate of (1-2) pints per acre, Regalia would only add an additional cost of \$7-14 per acre, and by adding this biological input, we may very likely see improved performance of your fungicides as well.

Wayne Ackermann, OVS Agronomics