

Omnia E-bulletin

May 2011



Omnia Program Brings Cherries Success

Omnia has had some good trial results on cherries in Young. It was an underperforming 6.2 hectare trial area with 100 hectares of cherries so a good size, practical trial was important for them.

The farm is a high density plantation of 1320 trees/hectare with 5m x 1.5m spacing on trellises.

Results for the first full year:

The average size of fruit was 30mm and the weight was 12 grams which when compared to the control area (which was 28mm in size and 10 grams in weight) meant that fruit size went up into next price bracket.

Production last year was 3.2 kg/tree and this year they picked 13.29 kg/tree. Not a bad increase of 315%!

Due to the catastrophic rain events in Young in December 2010 only half of the area was able to be harvested. However yield was up to 17.5 tons for half the area compared to 4.2 tons from total area previously.

The value of yield increase was 13.3 tons at \$7/kg. This means an additional \$93,000. So for a cost of \$3200 for 6.2 hectares, the farmer has a return of \$29 for every \$1 spent on the foliar and soil conditioner program.

Omnia's program is:

- 20 litres of K-Humate
- Three x 6 litres of Mega Kel P and 2 litres of MultiMate during pre and post flowering
- Three FoliCal Plus sprays during fruit filling, and
- Two Mega Kel P and MultiMate post harvest.



The cost of the program is:

\$375/hectare - pre harvest
(for soil conditioner and fruiting stage foliar sprays)

\$132/hectare - post harvest.

Next season is going to be the real test, as they always have some alternate bearing. We have implemented a program of 5 L/ha Mega Kel P plus additional 2L/ha MultiMate and look forward to seeing the results!

TALK TO US – IT PAYS!