

## Mite Problems July 26, 2010

The following information has been written by Dr. Dan Horton, Univ. of Georgia extension entomologist, for use by Georgia grape growers. It is also applicable to Tennessee. -*Dave Lockwood*

Mite problems are showing up in most orchard and vine crops. With wine grapes the normal concerns over long term stress are even more important. Premature defoliation certainly has the potential to push vines from stressed to full fledged decline and some cases vine death.

Since several growers have mentioned limited available miticide options with whomever their vendors are, I'd suggest they buy at least one decent miticide which could be kept on-hand. Waiting several days after noticing bronzing is not good. Also encourage growers to rotate materials, grapes are blessed with several very good materials, it would be a shame to wear any of them out just for failure to rotate.

### **TCurative grape miticides:**

**abamectin/Agri-Mek** & generics- a good, curative miticide, a good rotation partner for Acramite

**bifenazate/Acramite**- probably our best curative miticide, should be rotated with one or two other products

**bifenthrin/Brigade, Capture** & generics- primarily an insecticide, has some miticidal knockdown ability, but not truly competitive with the other curative materials because it is very prone to mite population rebounds after use

**dicofol/Kelthane**- an older curative miticide, but it evidently works on your mites, newer materials should out preform, but if it works it can be a useful part of your rotation

**fenbutatin-oxide/Vendex**- like Kelthane, an older curative miticide, if it works can be a useful part of a rotation, can be hard to find

pyridaben/Nexter, Pyramite- a good curative miticide, especially active against European red mites, *apply with care, label notes inhalation of spray is potentially fatal*

spirodiclofen/Envidor- a good curative miticide, a good rotation partner for Acramite

### **Preventative Grape Miticides:**

clofentezine/Apollo- a good mite egg miticide, best used as a preventative

etoxazole/Zeal- probably the best of 3 related mite egg miticides, best used as a preventative

If mites become an every year thing, consider using Apollo or Zeal every 3rd year, perhaps with Kelthane as a complimentary curative. Ovicides should give 4 to 6 weeks of control. However, if used often these materials are very prone to resistance development.

To see what is labeled for grapes click on <http://www.ent.uga.edu/fruit.htm> This takes you to the fruit entomology web site. In the top center-right is a table of **fruit and nut pesticide labels, REIs & PHIs**. Click on Grape Insecticide/Miticides to see what is available. Some growers have found the trade name compilation helpful, as it makes comparison shopping easier.

I hope this helps. Be in touch if you have questions.

Regards, Dan