

Curfew performs in Pukekohe

onion downy mildew trial

A replicated field Trial¹ in Pukekohe during season 2021/22 has confirmed the efficacy of Curfew[®] fungicide against Onion downy mildew (*Peronospora destructor*). "We understand that onion growers continue to battle against this aggressive, yield robbing disease", says Darren Faire, Business Development and Marketing Manager at Agrisource. He goes on to add "The investment in this local piece of research has proven particularly valuable as the site experienced high levels of disease challenge. In untreated plots we saw leaf disease incidence levels reach 75% and leaf disease severity levels of close to 30%. All fungicides in the trial were put under considerable pressure".

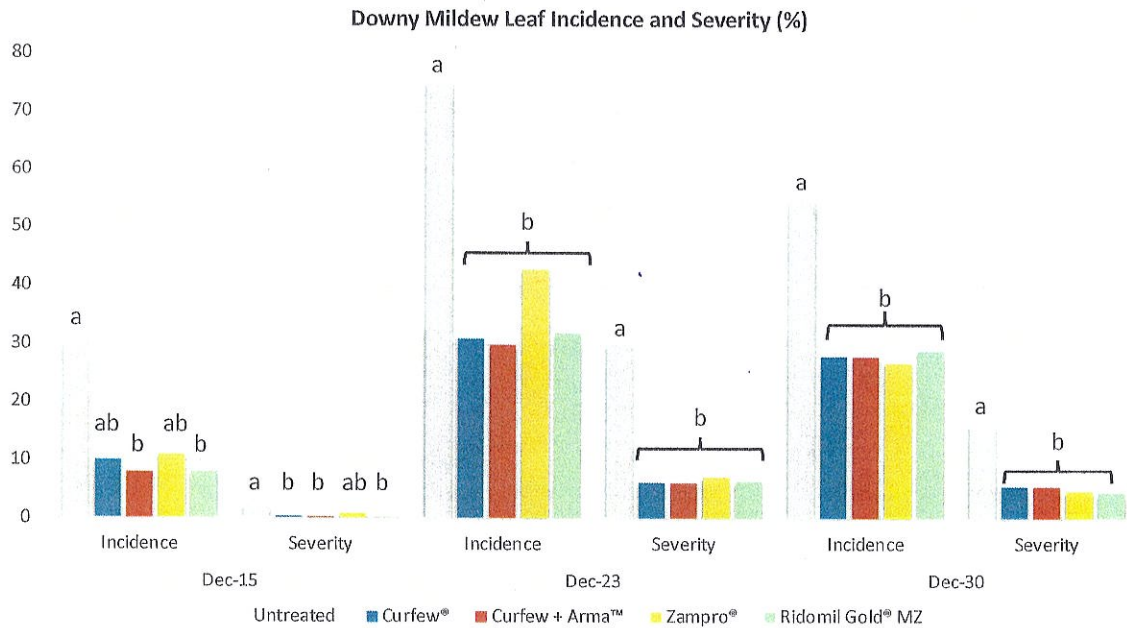
Curfew was first registered in New Zealand in 2009. Containing 450g/kg cymoxanil, it is a group 27 contact and systemic fungicide that has unique, powerful curative activity on downy mildew and late blight, when applied immediately after spore germination. It also acts as a short-term protectant. "The cymoxanil active ingredient continues to be a valuable tool in any potato late blight fungicide program and consistently ranks highly in EuroBlight² potato fungicide ratings due to its curative, kickback activity. This recent onion research gives growers added confidence that Curfew is just as beneficial in a robust downy mildew program. Being a group 27 fungicide, Curfew is

an important resistance management tool for growers alongside current downy mildew fungicides" states Darren.

Carried out in Pukekohe in a commercial crop of Rhinestone variety onions sown in early August, all applications were applied with Du-Wett[®] super spreader to ensure optimum deposition and leaf coverage. Curfew (applied at 350g/ha) was compared to industry standards Zampro[®] (800ml/ha) and Ridomil[®] Gold MZ (2kg/ha). Darren points out "Its important to note that the trial was designed to specifically test the performance of the fungicides when used alone. Good agricultural practice for all products is always apply with a suitable mixing partner and not exceed the label for recommended consecutive applications".

Growers are always looking to optimise their crop protection applications, one way to achieve this is using adjuvant technology. "Agrisource markets a unique activator adjuvant called Arma" which is ideally suited to enhance the performance of crop protection products, this was also included as a treatment with Curfew applied in conjunction with Du-Wett" says Darren. Applications commenced at the 5-leaf stage (November 19th) and all treatments were applied on a 7-15 day interval with downy mildew sporulation first observed in the trial area on December 15th. A total of 5 applications were made.





KEY TRIAL TAKEOUT'S

1. All fungicide treatments were statistically equivalent at all assessment timings.
2. The addition of Arma to Curfew + Du-Wett trended to reduce downy mildew incidence and severity compared to Curfew + Du-Wett across multiple assessment timings.

GETTING THE BEST OUT OF CURFEW

1. With a rate range of 250-350g/ha, use the 350g/ha rate during periods of high disease pressure at 7 day intervals.
2. Curfew can be applied up to 3 times in succession. Do not apply more than 5 applications per season.
3. Target Curfew applications after an infection period but before disease symptoms occur.
4. A group 27 fungicide, Curfew is a valuable resistance management tool. It should be used as part of a spray programme with alternative fungicides.
5. Always read the label before use.

For advice on how to get the best out of Curfew in your onion downy mildew program this season talk to your Inta-Ag agronomist.

1. Trial conducted by Staphyt Research.
2. EuroBlight, Late blight fungicide table May 2022.

Curfew is a registered trademark of Agri Solutions Ltd.
 Registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 No. P8010
 Du-Wett is a registered trademark of Elliott Chemicals Ltd.
 Arma is a trademark of Interagro (UK) Ltd.
 Zampro is a registered trademark of BASF.
 Ridomil is a registered trademark of a Syngenta Group Company.

