

Trialling Calcium Carbonate spray at leaf fall to increase winter chill in
cherry, apples and almonds

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Project aim

To initiate discussion around the concept of the chill/heat accumulation for deciduous fruits and nuts.

Project result

No statistical difference in almond or cherry treatments.

Visual difference in almond treatments

Project outcome

Report circulated to industry highlighting chill, concept of chill and tools to manage chill





While no statistically different results, the trial indicated that a calcium carbonate treatment on almond at leaf fall has potential to reflect heat during winter chill accumulation.

This may allow crop and pollinator varieties flowering to coincide to increase yield through increased pollination.

Acknowledgments

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- Almas Almonds, Abby White for almond trial
- CherryHill Orchards, Glen Riseborough for cherry trial
- J & D Conti, Adrian Conti for apple trial.

Apple block was replanted after calcium carbonate treatment. Not included in results