

Fire blight Control

Fire blight is prevalent as expected due to the lack of regular moisture and this followed a heavy December rain that spread the disease from last year. The pear trees predominantly planted throughout most cities and yards are the spreading culprits.

FROM THE LABEL:

For Fire blight control, apply this product in the dormant period, during bloom, or in-season cover spray applications. Do not exceed one application during the fall, late dormant period. Do not exceed one application between silver tip and green tip growth stages. May cause russetting of susceptible apple varieties. Do not exceed 1 gallon of product per 100 gallons of water. Repeat application every 7-10 days if necessary.

Fungicides are better used as preventatives than to cure a problem. Fungicides are also more effective if the particles are small or micronized in nature. Bonide Copper Fungicide has a very small particle which enables it to cover or coat the leaves. If allowed to dry for 24 to 48 hours it is perhaps the best on the market today. Drying is important and if sprinkling occurs in that time frame then another application will be needed. A tank sprayer applies the product where it is needed and allows for thorough applications. The wand of the sprayer and the adjustable flow tips are perfect for applying Copper Fungicide. The tip here is to fill the tank with half the warm water required for the particular application then the Bonide Copper Fungicide then the rest of the required water. This ensures a proper mixing of the ingredient with the water. Hose end applicators are very convenient in mass plantings and are very useful to reach into trees and tall plants. The fungicide only controls the disease and is not "magic". It will not make the damage go away.

Bonide Copper Fungicide can be used right up to the day of harvest. It is listed "for organic gardening" by the USDA National Organics Program.

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FIRE BLIGHT DISEASE CYCLE

