CROP : PLUM - *PRESIDENT*

Trial carried out in France in 2002

SITE DETAILS

TRIAL N° :	**D/F/PRU/02/51**	**Crop information**
82200 MOISSAC South West region		Variety : **President** Root stock : Mirobolan Date of planting : 1987 Density of planting : 5 m between rows, 2 m on the row Height of the trees : 3,2 m Irrigation type : Drip irrigation

APPLICATION DETAILS

	Product	Dose rate	Application date	Crop stage at application	Volume of water	Remarks
Application N°1	AMINOFIT.Xtra	2,5 l/ha	20/03/02	Mid flowering	200 l/ha	AMINOFIT.Xtra applied alone
Application N°2	AMINOFIT.Xtra	2,5 l/ha	03/05/02	Bud formation, diameter =1cm	200 l/ha	AMINOFIT.Xtra applied alone
Application N°3	AMINOFIT.Xtra	5 l/ha	20/06/02	Beginning of colouring	200 l/ha	AMINOFIT.Xtra applied alone
Application N°4	AMINOFIT.Xtra	5 l/ha	30/07/02	15 days before harvest	200 l/ha	AMINOFIT.Xtra applied alone

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plot size : 2 rows with 5 trees per row
Trial design : 4 replicates
Application method : Foliar spray
Equipment used : Tractor towed mist-blower
Assessments : At harvest : size and weight of fruits,
Brix level,
Shelf life.

COMMENTS CONCLUSION

The 4 applications of AMINOFIT.Xtra that were realised from flowering stage until 15 days before harvest, have significantly increased the calibre of the fruit since 63 % of the fruit treated with AMINOFIT.Xtra were of calibre 55 and higher against 34 % for the control.
The average weight of the fruit of each calibre was also slightly higher in the treated plots. The sum of these two effects brings along an increase in the financial revenue since the fruit is commercialised by the calibre and the larger calibres are sold more expensive than the smaller ones.

Sugar content has also largely increased with 2 points in the treated plots.

These very positive effects on the calibre and the sugar content may have been heightened by the cold and wet weather during the last ten days before harvest, which has perturbed the maturation process of the fruit.

RESULTS

Date of assessment	14/08/02 = 15 days after the last application				
Crop stage	Maturity				
Type of record	% fruit of calibre 45	% fruit of calibre 50	% fruit of calibre 55	% fruit of calibre 60	Brix
AMINOFIT.Xtra	7,5 (b)	29,0 (b)	45,0 (a)	18,5 (a)	12,4 (a)
UNTREATED CONTROL	15,5 (a)	50,5 (a)	33,0 (b)	1,0 (b)	10,4 (b)

Date of assessment	14/08/02 = 15 days after the last application				
Crop stage	Maturity				
Type of record	Average weight fruit calibre 45	Average weight fruit calibre 50	Average weight fruit calibre 55	Average weight fruit calibre 60	Aver. weight. / prune in gr
AMINOFIT.Xtra	54,6 (a)	70,0 (a)	89,9 (a)	106,2	84,4 (a)
UNTREATED CONTROL	49,9 (b)	67,8 (a)	83,0 (b)	-	70,3 (b)

Date of assessment	22/08/02	28/08/02	02/09/02	07/09/02	13/09/02	19/09/02
Number of days after the harvest	8	14	19	24	34	40
Type of record	Cumulated % of prunes that are no longer fit for commercialisation (loss of firmness)					
AMINOFIT.Xtra	30	40	62	80	92	100
UNTREATED CONTROL	28	36	52	78	92	100

Remarks :
The calibre was measured on 50 plums per plot.
Brix was measured on a sample of 500 gram fruit per plot with a manual refractometer.
Shelf life was evaluated on a unique sample of 50 pieces of fruit per plot, conserved in the dark at 14°C. All damaged, withered, soft, waxy or spotted fruits were considered no longer fit for commercialisation and were withdrawn from the lot at every observation.

GRAPHS