

Project 58 Evaluation of Several Post-plant Nematicides on Mandarin Rootstocks

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Post-plant nematicides have not been used much in citrus but there are now nematicidal products of interest. The standard nematicide Enzone did not perform at Lindcove after two years of evaluation (2003 and 2004). Admire applied in 2003 and 2004 as a nematicide was the best performer but it was only a mediocre performer. In 2005 we substituted Telone ec or Cordon for Enzone and used application methods more appropriate for foothill soils having poor water infiltration. The longer half life of the product, use of three times the volume of water during the application and use of one drip emitter at every square foot provided useful delivery of the nematicidal activity. In 2005 we also received for testing a commercial version of the walnut tea extract tested in 2003 and 2004. This product called NatureCur is providing 40% relief from soil-dwelling nematodes in the first year. The Integrate product with the new application procedures has not performed well but one more year of study is needed. All eight of the rootstocks involved in this trial are susceptible to the aggressive biotype of citrus nematode. Taiwanica rootstock has the greatest number of small feeder roots and highest nematode populations and also appears to have benefited most from the nematicidal applications.