### Product Bulletin





# Bayfidan® Fungicide – Proven Powdery Mildew Control

## POWDERY MILDEW DOES NOT SHUT DOWN FOR CHRISTMAS!!

Powdery mildew is often referred to as the 'dry weather disease'. If a sound early-season spray program including Prosper® and Flint® fungicides has not been adopted, powdery mildew may well show up in your vineyard at this time of year. Tolerance levels for powdery mildew may be low for some wineries, which could lead to rejection of fruit if infected grapes are detected. Therefore, constant monitoring for powdery mildew is imperative to ensure your grapes are disease-free and of the highest quality.

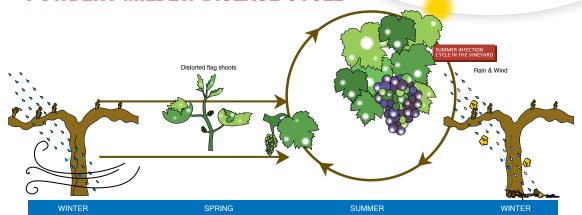
It is always advisable to manage powdery mildew preventatively, rather than trying to manage it after infection is evident (curatively). However, if powdery mildew is detected, it is important to treat it as early as possible.

If powdery mildew is detected in the vineyard, despite adhering to a powdery mildew spray program, it can usually be related to;

- Delayed spray timing
- Extended spray interval
- Poor spray coverage
- · Poor chemical choice

Several new fungicides have been launched in recent years for powdery mildew control in grapes, e.g. Prosper and Flint from Bayer. However, "old favourites" like Bayfidan are important tools in the holistic management of powdery mildew in the vineyard, and should not be forgotten.

### **POWDERY MILDEW DISEASE CYCLE**



Powdery mildew overwinters as fungal growth in diseased buds or as cleistothecia spore bodies on leaves, stems and bark. Diseased buds develop into stunted 'flag' shoots. Spore bodies (cleistothecia) release spores after 2.5 mm of rain or irrigation. Spores spread to developing leaves and bunches.

During early summer a new generation of spores is formed every 5-10 days and spread by wind throughout the vineyard in mild cloudy weather conditions ideally around 22-28°C.

Cleistothecia remain on cordons, canes and decaying leaves. Fungal strands remain inside the dormant bud.

#### **BAYFIDAN TIPS**

There are a few important points to remember when using Bayfidan.

- Some fungicides only control spores landing on the plant. Bayfidan works differently to these products, providing systemic activity to control the fungus within the leaf and offering residual protection.
- For resistance management apply no more than three 'DMI' (Group C) fungicides in a season and not more than two applications consecutively. Bayfidan is a Group C – DMI fungicide. DMIs should not be applied curatively.
- High water volumes are particularly important for Bayfidan, as this improves coverage and increases the period of uptake into the leaf, thus achieving optimal efficacy. A wetting agent is also recommended for maximum effectiveness.
- Effective spray coverage is essential. This can be achieved by adjusting sprayer set up to target the canopy and bunches. Good canopy management will also assist coverage.
- Two Bayfidan sprays 7 days apart may be necessary in high pressure situations.
- Tank mixing Bayfidan with copper fungicides should be avoided as this may produce inconsistent results.
- Bayfidan has a 7 day withholding period for grapes destined for the domestic market and a 35 day withholding period for export wine grapes. Consult your winemaker or grape purchaser for advice, prior to making late season fungicide applications.
- Bayfidan is a cost effective product with systemic and residual activity for the control of powdery mildew.

If there are areas where powdery mildew is visible this year it is important to target these blocks with an improved fungicide program next year. Early planning next season with constant monitoring and a robust program including two Prosper applications pre-flowering followed by one or two Flint applications during flowering has provided many growers with fruit free of powdery mildew.

Bayfidan®, Prosper® and Flint® are Registered Trademarks of Bayer.

For further information please contact your local chemical reseller or our free call technical information number:

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