



FireWall™ 50 WP Approved for Use Against Citrus Canker on Florida Grapefruit



Technical Bulletin – No. 5

The Problem: Citrus canker (*Xanthomonas citri* subsp. *citri*) has severely impacted Florida citrus production – especially fresh grapefruit since lesions on the fruit surface resulting from this bacterial disease typically result in reduced packouts and lower grades. Copper sprays have been the standard treatment for citrus canker. However, in order to provide season-long protection, 10-15 copper applications may be required; this can lead to phytotoxicity during hot weather, copper buildup in the soil and even pathogen resistance to copper.

The Answer: FireWall™ 50 WP is bactericide (streptomycin sulfate) that easily integrates into an existing copper based citrus canker program. FireWall works by killing the pathogenic bacteria responsible for citrus canker. Independent research field trials in Florida over 7 years have shown FireWall delivers two major benefits to grapefruit growers: 1) equivalent reduction in citrus canker compared to copper treatments alone and, 2) residual bactericidal activity under tropical weather conditions. In addition, because a FireWall/copper program uses reduced copper rates, potential phytotoxicity to the fruit from copper is reduced thus improving potential packouts and grades.

A Section-18 (Specific Emergency Exemption) for use of FireWall 50 WP against citrus canker on commercially-grown grapefruit until June 12, 2015 has been issued by the EPA to the state of Florida. See table below for basic recommendations and information.

Application Rate for Grapefruit, FireWall 50 WP	Max. No. Apps. per Season	Maximum Amount per Season	Min. Interval between Applications	Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI)	Re-Entry Interval (REI)
11 oz. per acre	2	22 oz. per acre	21 days	60 days	12 hrs.
Apply FireWall:	When redistribution of inoculum is increased by wind-blown rain.				
Integrate with Copper:	Tank-mix FireWall with <i>reduced rates</i> of copper; application of copper bactericides prior to and following FireWall strongly recommended.				
Other Recommendations:	Apply when crop expert or FDACS determines weather conditions favor canker and increased risk of phytotoxicity from copper sprays exists.				

All applicable directions, restrictions, and precautions on the EPA-registered label for FireWall 50 WP must be followed as well as those on the Section 18 label for FireWall 50 WP. Refer to the FireWall 50 WP Section 18 label for additional information and/or restrictions concerning application of FireWall 50 WP to commercially-grown grapefruit in Florida for canker management. Always read and follow label instructions. For more information about FireWall™, please contact AgroSource by calling (908) 931-9001, or Emailing sales@agrosource.net; or visit us on the web at www.agrosource.net.