

# SWITCH® – powerful fungicide option for control of botrytis, crown and petiole rots in strawberries



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The fungicide SWITCH has been a mainstay in disease control in a range of crops for many years. SWITCH is a specialist fungicide when it comes to controlling diseases such as botrytis and sclerotinia in grapes and many vegetable crops. In strawberries, SWITCH offers protection against botrytis and also crown and petiole rots.

## Benefits of SWITCH:

- Two unique active ingredients for outstanding disease protection
- Three totally different modes of action against Botrytis for resistance management
- Durable fungicide combination with four sites of action on disease development
- Locally systemic and protectant activity for disease protection inside and outside the crop
- Rainfast within 2 hours of application



Figure 1. Grey mold (*Botrytis cinerea*). Credit: Cornell University



Figure 2. Treated strawberries

## Use recommendations

- Apply SWITCH at 80g/100 L (maximum of 800g/ha)
- Apply SWITCH on a 7 to 10 day spray interval. Use shorter interval when conditions favour disease development.
- The 80g/100L rate is for high volume dilute spraying to the point of "run-off". For concentrate spraying, adjust dilution rate accordingly. DO NOT exceed 800g/ha.
- Apply in sufficient water to ensure thorough and uniform coverage of foliage and flowers when targeting grey mould and crown of the plant when targeting crown and petiole rots
- SWITCH has a 3 day withholding period for harvest.
- SWITCH is compatible with Captan, Thiovit Jet, Avatar, Copper Hydroxide and Copper Oxychloride, Flint, Proclaim and Dithane.

## Trials to investigate efficacy of SWITCH on strawberries for control of botrytis

In 2006, replicated trials were conducted to confirm the relative efficacy of various fungicides for the control of *Botrytis* spp. in field grown strawberries cv. Camarosa in Auckland, New Zealand. Fungicides treatments were applied at 6-8 day intervals, with 6 applications being made. Samples of marketable fruit from each treatment were continuously incubated and fruit rots assessed after 4 and 7 days of incubation.

Results are shown in Figure 3 (page 2). Only the 2 treatments marked with \* which included SWITCH showed statistically significant improvements in disease control over untreated.

## Trial results cont.

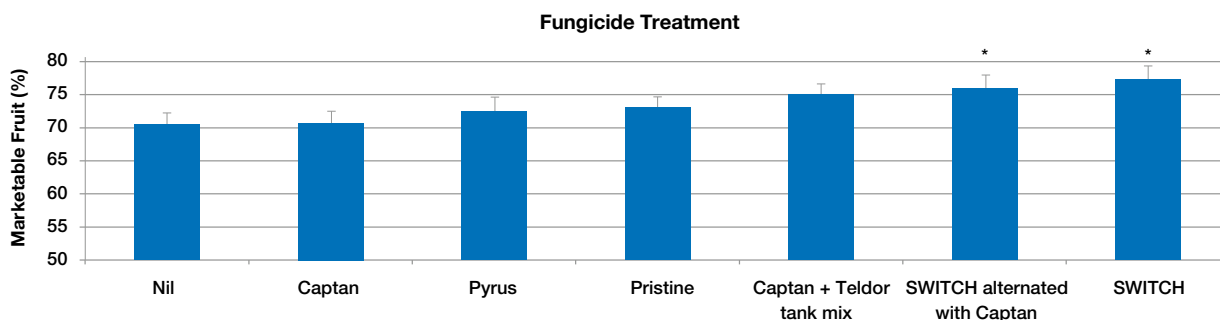


Figure 3: Effect of SWITCH and other fungicides on proportion (%) of marketable yield in strawberries, Auckland New Zealand 2006 (*Botrytis cinerea*).

## Trial to investigate efficacy of SWITCH on strawberries for control of crown and petiole rots

A field trial was initiated at the Maroochy Research Station, Nambour Queensland to confirm the efficacy of fungicide treatments for the control of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (crown and petiole rots). The trial was conducted as two experimental timings, Part 1 being conducted from 29 March to 3 May and Part 2 conducted from 30 May to 6 July. In Part 1, 3 applications were applied on 7 day intervals and in Part 2, 4 applications were applied on 7 to 9 day intervals..

Assessment of petiole isolations and determination of fungicide efficacy was determined based upon *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* isolate counts and recovery (%) on 3 May and 6 July. Figure 4 shows the outstanding results of SWITCH against crown and petiole rots.

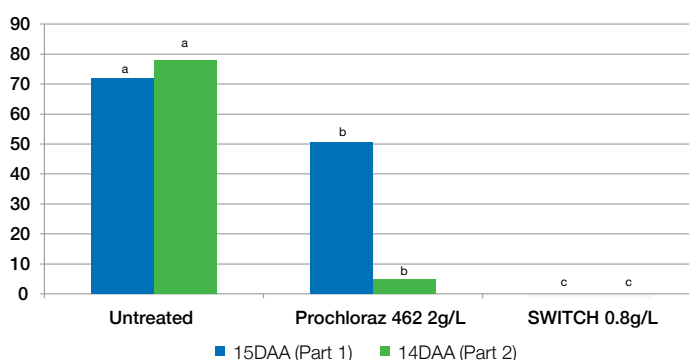


Figure 4: Efficacy of SWITCH compared to the industry standard for the control of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (% pathogen recovery) in field trials, Maroochy Research Station, Nambour Queensland 2006.

NOTE: Results with different letters show statistical differences from other treatments.



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