



DOVE
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Information

Pruning sealants 2007

Commercial product: Scaniavital Silica Paste from Biobest

This is primarily being marketed as a wound dressing (physical barrier) for protected tomatoes but there is definitely potential for use on other protected crops such as ornamentals. It is based on fine clay particles which can be easily spread over a pruning wound. As well as the clay, the paste contains silicon, potassium, calcium and a thickening agent. The paste dries quickly on plants under protection, which then prevents dehydration of the wounds. It must be noted that any spores that could be on pruning equipment or near the wound itself will not be destroyed because there are no fungicides present in the paste. As with all good nursery hygiene, make sure tools are kept clean and sharp to avoid increasing the surface area of the wound produced.

The low toxicity of the substances in the Silica Paste means that all members of staff are able to apply it. Check the label for personal protective equipment requirements. There are two pack sizes; one is a 1 litre bucket and the other is a bottle with a brush applicator. Make sure that the contents of the 1 litre bucket are stirred well prior to use. After application, ensure the lids on both containers are well secured to prevent the product drying out. Store between 5°C and 15°C. There are no restrictions to the number of times it can be used.

Retail product: Bio Arbrex Seal n' Heal

This is a dark brown/grey emulsion, which is made up of natural waxes, resin and various plant oils. It can be applied in temperatures down to -5°C. This has a similar effect to the Silica Paste in that it acts as a physical barrier to disease. There are no restrictions to the number of times it can be used.

Commercial fungicidal product: Bexel (MAPP 12753)

A new canker paint for trimming and pruning wounds containing tebuconazole. It gives good protection from a wide range of tree diseases that can get into an open wound. Use it when carrying out tree surgery and late pruning operations.

Read the label before you buy – use pesticides safely

Dove Associates shall in no event be liable for any loss or damage caused by the use of products mentioned in this document

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