

NUTRIENT EFFICIENCY

Foliar Applied Mainstay™ Si Reduces Bitter pit

APPLE

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the trial was to evaluate improvements in fruit quality parameters using applications of Mainstay™ Si at key timings compared to a grower standard calcium program. Both treatments received a total of 16 foliar calcium sprays over the growing season.

KEY OUTCOMES

Two applications of Mainstay™ Si increased calcium and silicon content and fruit firmness. In field run samples, incidence of bitterpit increased from 9% to 14% in the grower standard treatment post-storage. Mainstay™ Si treated fruit showed no increase in bitterpit incidence post-storage.

THE TRIAL



WHO:

A university-replicated study



WHAT:

This was a randomized trial with three replicates. Each treatment received a total of 16 foliar calcium sprays. Mainstay™ Si was applied for the first two cover sprays in place of the conventional calcium sprays to a Honeycrisp orchard with a history of bitter pit.



EVALUATION PARAMETERS:

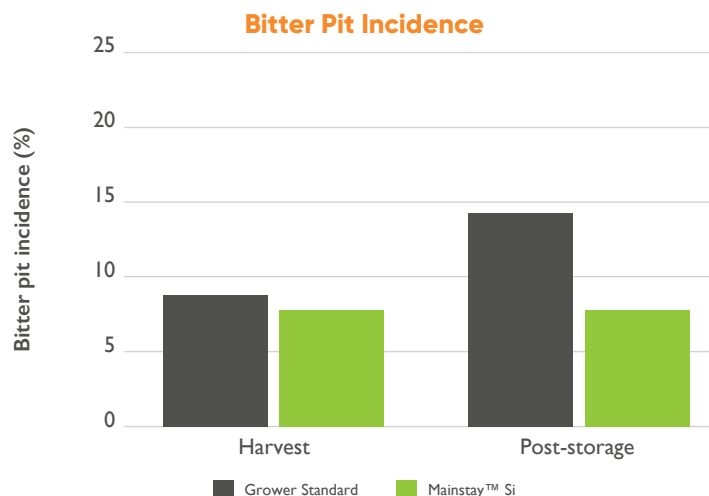
- PXRF Calcium, Silicon, and Potassium content and fruit firmness.
- Evaluated for bitterpit in random field run samples at harvest and after 30 days storage.

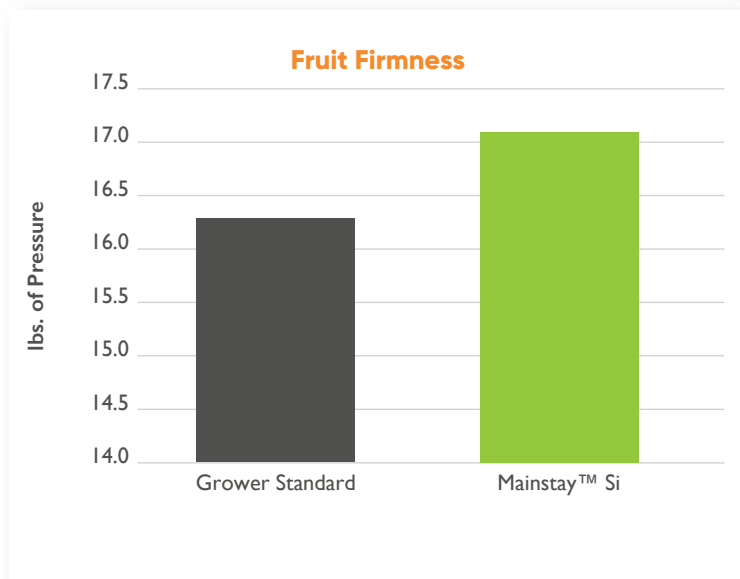
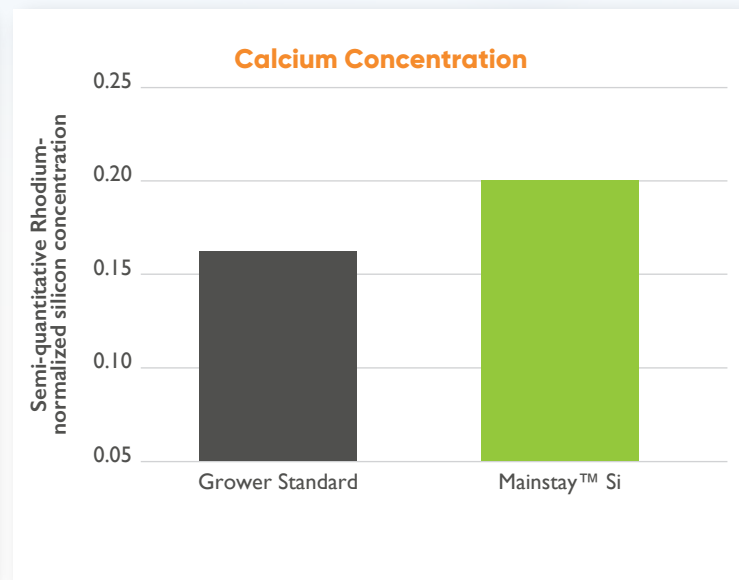
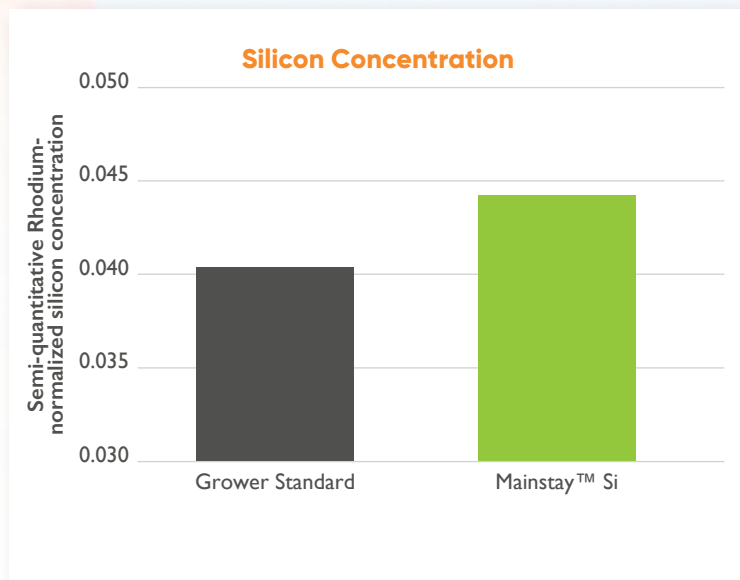


WHERE: Wenatchee, WA



WHEN: Treatments initiated post-bloom and fruit analyzed in June, and at harvest and three months after harvest





Notes:
