

Your submission to APP203974 - reassessment of hydrogen cyanamide

Submission no: 127786

Ref no: 91

MOP no: n/a

[REDACTED], Alexandor Orchard ([REDACTED])

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Bay of Plenty

New Zealand

Reference no: 91

Clause

What is your position on the proposals set out in the reassessment application? Please outline your reasons in the text box below.

Position

I support the application

Notes

I have been a green kiwifruit grower for the past 38 years, 30 of those as a Biogro certified organic grower on my 2 hectare property in Tauranga. For the first 15 years I also worked at various orchards and packhouses (Waimapu, Centrepac) doing pruning, picking, grading, Kiwigreen monitoring and maturity testing. Although I've never personally used HiCane on my orchard, I've seen the toxic effects of its use on other orchards (whole blocks of vines killed off thru' HiCane misapplication), and in relation to pets (sometimes lethally) affected by the sprays. I also know from the production results of many organic growers over many years that HiCane is not at all necessary for the production of consistently high, good quality kiwifruit yields, Organic orchards that once produced 7-9,000 trays/ha average are now producing 14-16,000 trays/ha through improved pruning & growing methods, better IPM strategies, and more knowledge-based soil & plant nutrition treatments. If kiwifruit vines can't successfully produce high quality crops in a certain area, then they shouldn't be artificially assisted with highly toxic herbicides such as HiCane. To do so is contrary to Zespri's own Globalgap orchard, environment & social sustainability policies which specify that sites must be chosen that are suitable to growing kiwifruit in the most horticulturally, environmentally, socially & culturally responsible & least detrimental ways. HiCane use violates this policy and the associated principles of healthy, safe, ethical, socially & environmentally integrated orcharding & food production. For all these reasons, I fully support the EPA reassessment to ban and phase out HiCane use, along with all the other protective measures proposed.

Clause

All submissions are taken into account by the decision makers. In addition, please indicate whether or not you also wish to speak at a hearing if one is held.

Position

No I do not wish to speak about my submission at the hearing

Notes