

Fruit Performance: Gerry Schumacher

Green and Organic storage pools continue to perform well YTD. Green fruit loss is sitting at 2.29% vs industry at 4.48%. Organic fruit loss is at 1.68% vs industry at 2.34%.

Week 45 loadouts saw a 16% fruit loss on Green conventional vs 51% for the industry and the compensation model at 27%.

That means for every tray of fruit we shipped in week 40 (46,769 trays) we were paid by ZESPRI for losses of 27% (12,627 trays). We only lost 7,630 trays in week 45 so the value of the difference (12,627 – 7,630 = 4,997 trays) goes into the Apata storage incentive pool. We still have 172,000 conventional and 99,000 organic trays in store however the majority has been ordered by ZESPRI and will be loaded out by the end of November.

For a detailed breakdown of fruit loss by ISO week, turn to page three.

Week 45 YTD Fruit Loss %

	APATA YTD	INDUSTRY YTD	APATA 2008
GREEN	2.29%	4.48%	5.72%
ORGANIC	1.68%	2.34%	2.57%
GOLD	2.48%	3.69%	2.75%

On-Orchard during November

- Flower thinning in **Hayward**
- Continuing the canopy work in **Hayward**, working at stabilising the canopy and minimising the amount of vegetative growth in the canopy
- Little and often with the canopy work. Remember try to do it without needing to use secateurs!
- Pollination in **Hayward**
- Post flowering oil in **Hayward**
- Leafroller and fungicide in **Hayward**
- More canopy work in **Hort16A**, going through the canopy often and taking out the obvious excess leaf each time
- Post-blossom leafroller sprays in **Hort16A**
- Finish male pruning in **Hort16A**
- Fill in and return your **Pest Monitoring** contract

ZESPRI Registrations Due Back

ZESPRI's Annual Producer and KPIN Registration Packs have been sent to growers a month earlier this year. All growers should have received their packs by mid-October.

The forms will be pre-printed with your information, so all you need to do is check that it is correct, update any details and return it to ZESPRI as soon as possible.

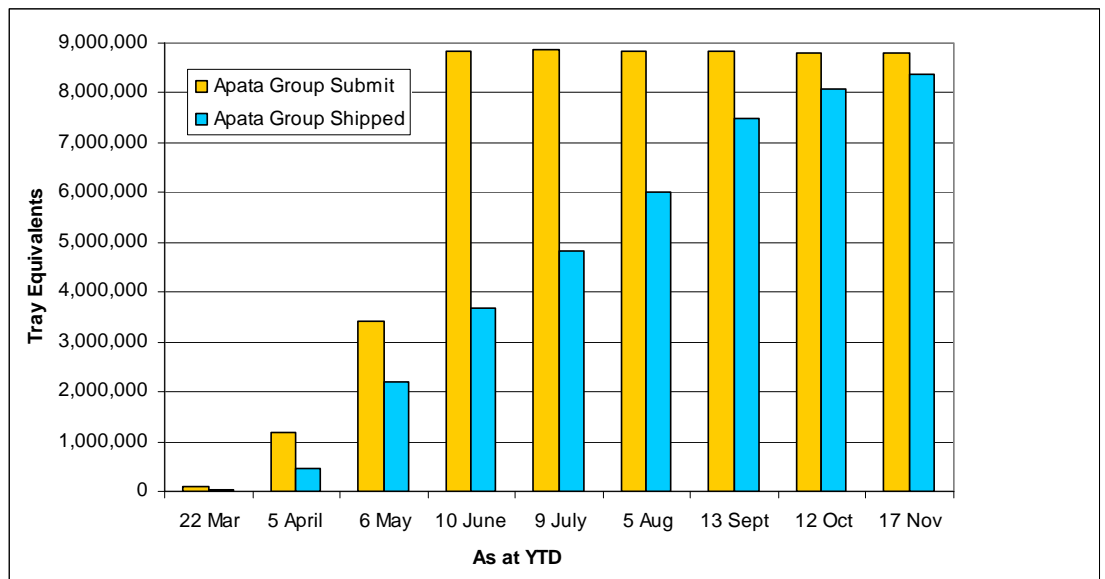
If you have any questions about the ZESPRI registration process please contact the ZESPRI Grower Contact Centre on 0800 155 355 or email contactcanopy@zespri.com

Apata 2009 Season Update

Apata Group Submit vs Shipped

This graph shows the total Year-to-Date that APATA Group has submitted into ZESPRI's Inventory, and what has been shipped by ZESPRI.

As at 17 November 2009, Apata has submitted 8.79 million TEs of kiwifruit, and ZESPRI has shipped 8.37 million TEs of Apata's submitted fruit.



Upcoming Events

The Holiday Season is just about upon us, so make sure you have these Apata events marked in your diary.

November

Organic Field Day – 23 November

The next Apata Bay of Plenty Organic Field Day will be held on 23 November at the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic orchard in Windermere, starting at 1.30pm.

Topics will include frost, crop loading and pollination.

A reminder will be sent to organic growers closer to the time.

Northland Grower Christmas Dinner – 26 November

Invites have been sent to all Northland growers. Join us at **Amici Restaurant**, Quality Street Mall, Cameron Street Whangarei at 7.00pm for a night of festive celebration.

Please RSVP your attendance to Caroline Carter on 09 430 8003 by 20 November.

December

BOP Grower Christmas Party – 9 December

Come celebrate the festive season with the Apata Grower Services Team on Wednesday 9 December!

Apata Growers can take part in the Annual Apata Fishing Competition, which will conclude with prize giving and a delicious BBQ at the Omokoroa Boat Club.

Fishing not your thing? Then join us for drinks and nibbles in the beautiful late afternoon sun on the deck overlooking Omokoroa Harbour from 2pm, when the weigh-in will commence. The BBQ will fire up at 6pm.

Invites will be sent to growers shortly.



AgFirst Flower Counts

AgFirst have completed a round of flower counts on the orchards involved in their estimation programme.

The results of these counts show that for the Bay of Plenty area the volumes are:

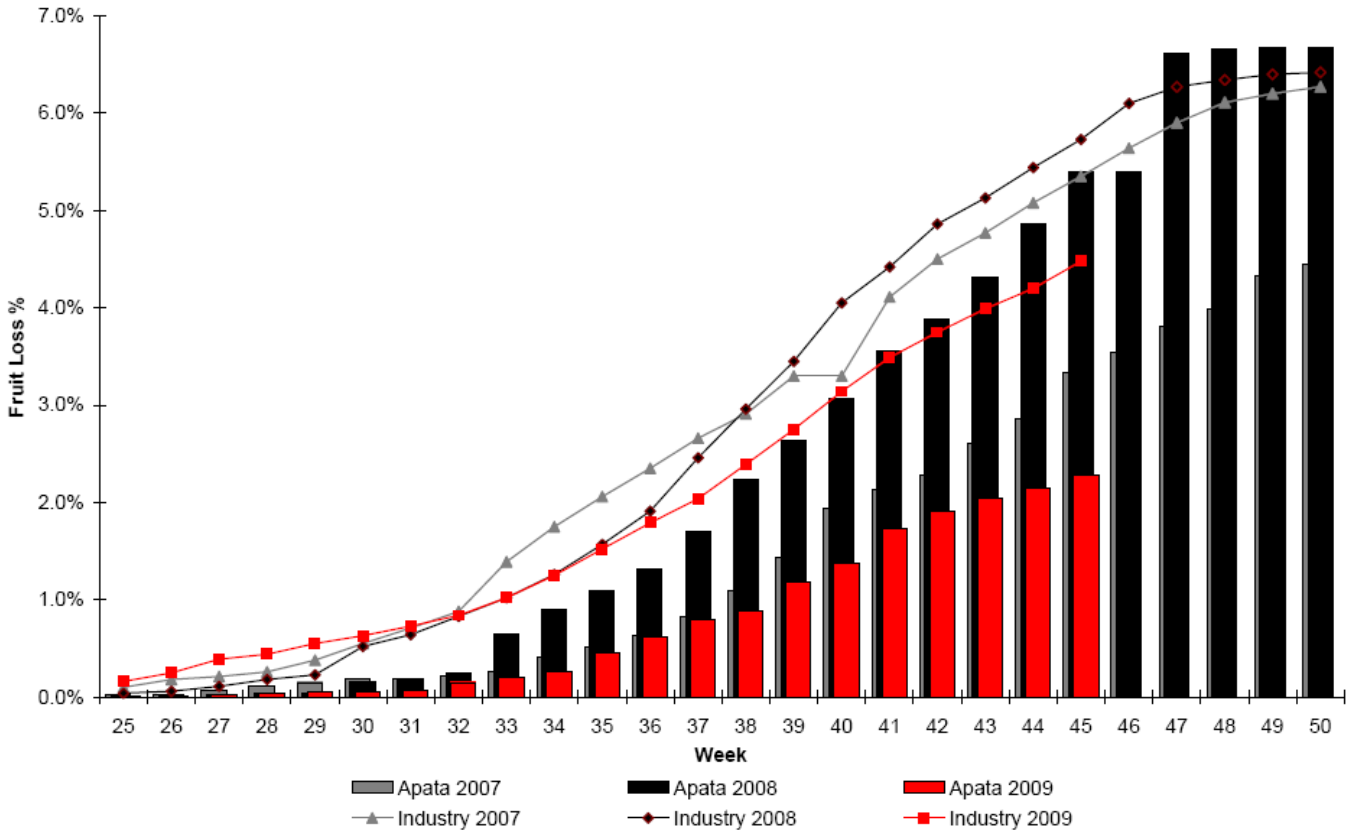
Gold	up over last season
Hayward	down a little over last season
Gold OB	same as last year
Hayward OB	up over last year



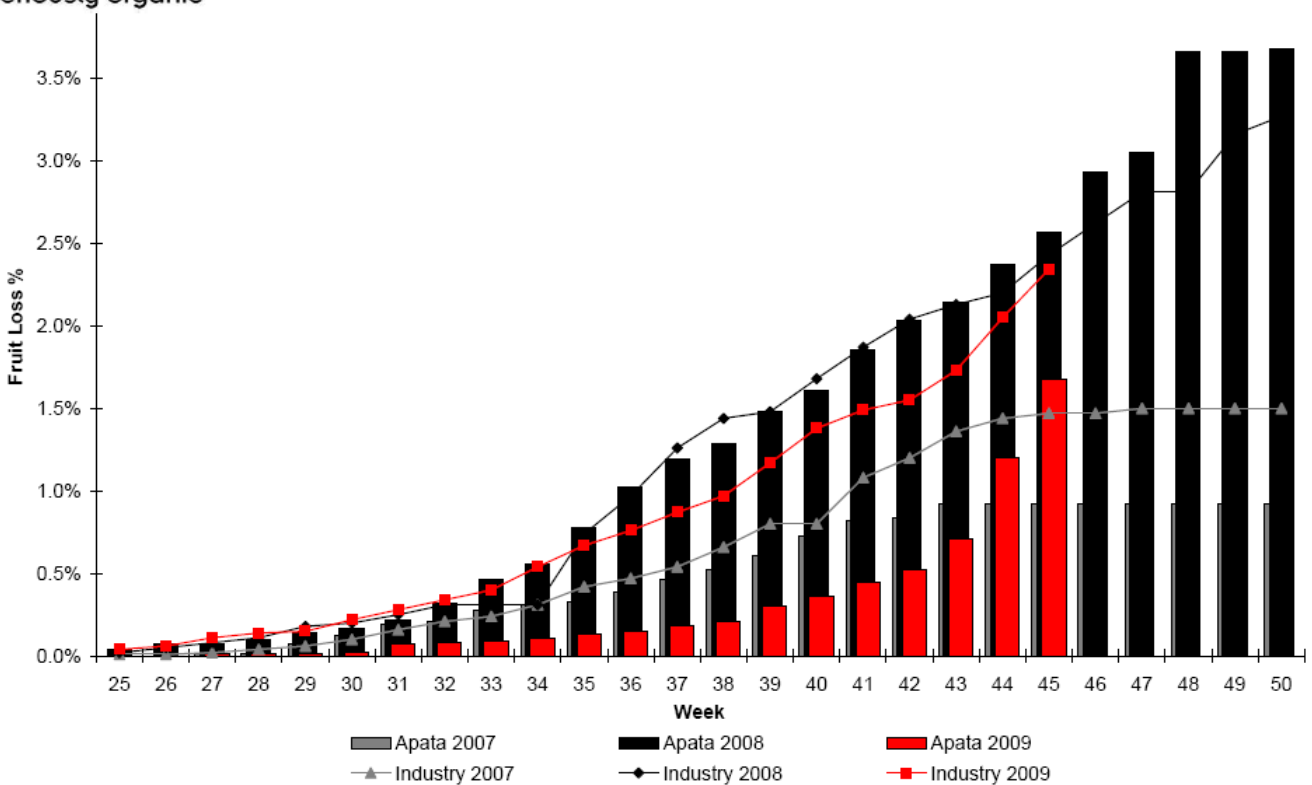
Fruit Loss Results

The following charts show Apata's fruit loss performance by ISO week.

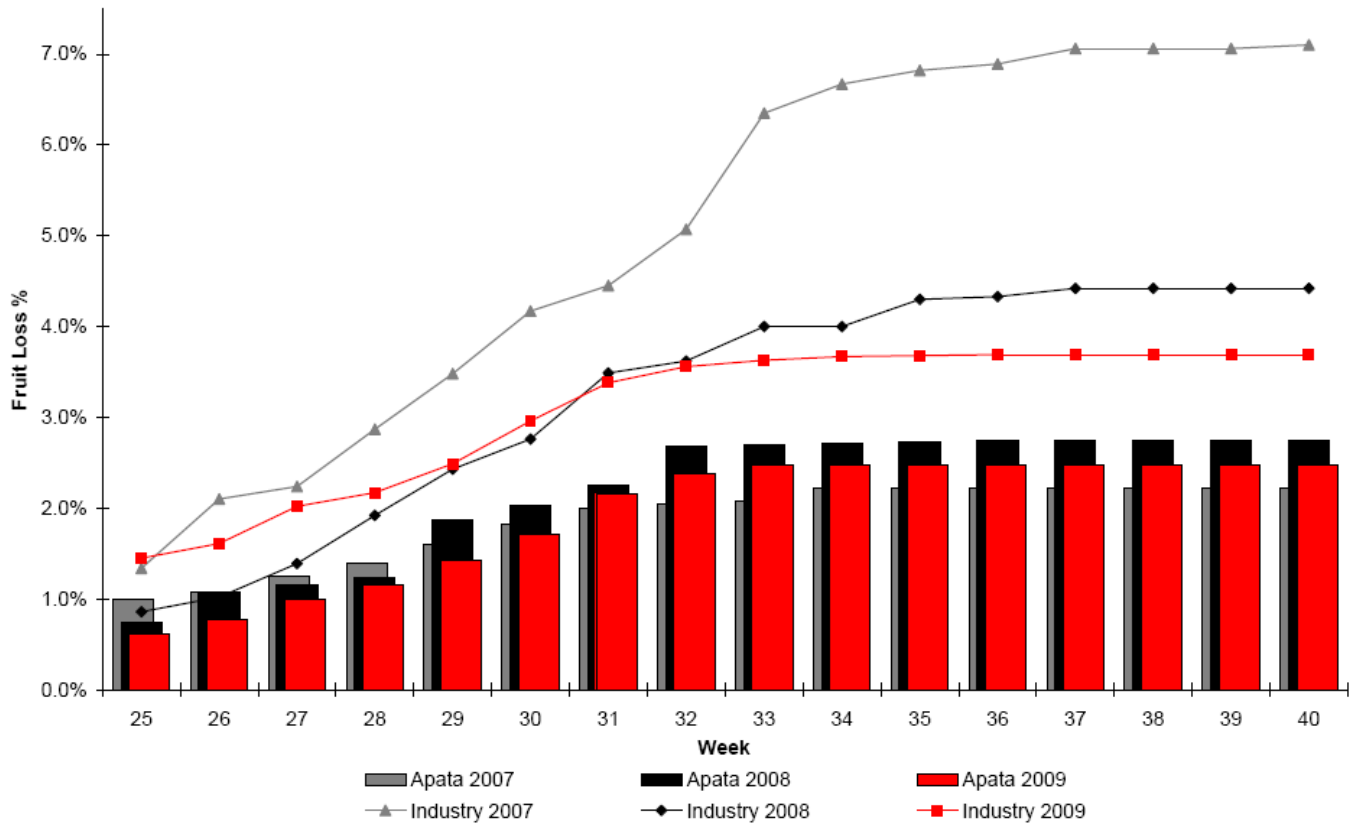
**Fruit Loss: Green Conventional
2009 (YTD)**



**Fruit Loss: Green Organic
2009 (YTD)**



Fruit Loss: Gold
2009 (YTD)



Hort16A Fruitlet Drop

Many Hort16A orchards have experienced fruitlet drop this season. The severity and geographical spread appears to vary. While the exact cause has not been identified, and may vary from orchard to orchard, the most likely explanation is fruitlet abortion from abnormally cold, wet conditions, resulting in physiological stress and/or lack of pollination. Affected orchardists report little or no bee activity, poor synchronization of males and prolonged periods of cold, wet conditions through various periods of flowering. Hort16A flowers have a relatively short period of pollen receptivity compared to Hayward and are prone to poor conditions at flowering.

Information on bacterial bud rot and Sclerotinia is available from the KiwiTech Bulletins series on www.zespricanopy.com. Any unusual observations should be reported to tech.transfer@zespri.com.

Be Careful When Applying Chemicals!

In some Hort16A orchards Sparkler (CK2) are flowering much later than usual. This means they may well overlap with the early Hayward flowering. Bee's from neighboring Hayward blocks may be present in Hort16A blocks when post-flowering sprays are applied. Some of the leafroller sprays are not bee safe and should not be applied under these circumstances. Spraying of any agrichemicals, including oil, is not recommended while bees are actively foraging.

We recommend the CK2's are pruned so none of its flowers are present.

Growers are reminded that any application of agrichemicals must be in accordance with the ZESPRI Crop Protection Programme to avoid residue issues. Any deviation from it requires a Justified Approval from ZESPRI prior to application. A request can be made by completing a Justified Approval form from www.zespricanopy.com



Hicane Burn on Hayward

As a result of the cold winter we have just experienced, bud break has been earlier this season.

The problem with this is that the weather around 20 August, which is when most growers are applying their Hicane, was wet - so it was unsuitable for spraying. As a result there are a number of orchards that had Hicane applied in the 25-30 August period. The buds burst around two weeks later, which is well inside the 35 day optimum, has resulted in Hicane burn.

The burn is not characterised by 'burning' as such, but as a lot of blind shoots and low numbers of flower buds. If you suspect your orchard may have Hicane Burn, please contact your Apata Grower Services Representative for advice.

Hayward pollination is upon us: **Neale Cameron, Pollination Expert**

Things to remember:

Pre-Pollination

- Make sure contracts are in place and stakeholders are aware of their responsibilities including beehive standards. A good place to start is the KPA standard which is seven frames 60% Brood at all stages, 12 frames bees, a laying queen, room for colony expansion and free of disease.
- Orchard mowed to aid bee orientation onto kiwifruit flowers.
- Prepare a warm and sheltered position for the beehives, especially given the changeable weather of recent times. This could include a flagging of position to help bees orientate back to their hives (a drum or sheet of corrugated iron etc).

During Pollination

- Make sure hives are not introduced too early given that the Gold pollination was a drawn out affair and indications are that Hayward will follow the same pattern. If possible use split introduction times. If this is not appropriate, look for 10% of the female flowers to open before introduction. Remember that you're better to be a fraction late than early - if the bee's get orientated on to flowers outside the orchard, you won't get them back.
- Ensure that sugar feeding is taking place. The recommendation is two litres every two days at a 60% solution. This increases pollen collection by five or six times.
- Put out a water supply – this could be a piece of sacking in a container of water.

If you have any queries please ring your Apata Grower Services Representative.



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