

BEE-SCENT



TECHNICAL BULLETIN Pears, Plums & Cherries

Pears are considered self-unfruitful so pollen must be physically transferred by honey bees to achieve the necessary cross pollination. While the Bartlett variety may, in some regions, be self-fruitful research shows pollen transfer by bees increases set and fruit quality in all varieties.

Yields can be significantly improved by increasing bee activity within pear orchards. However, the low sugar content of pear nectar means bees are often tempted to visit nearby competing flowers.

Bee-Scent's ingredients make pear orchards more attractive to honey bees, and induces them to forage on pear blossoms. Tests show the pheromone in Bee-Scent encourages bee foraging which results in corresponding increases in fruit set.

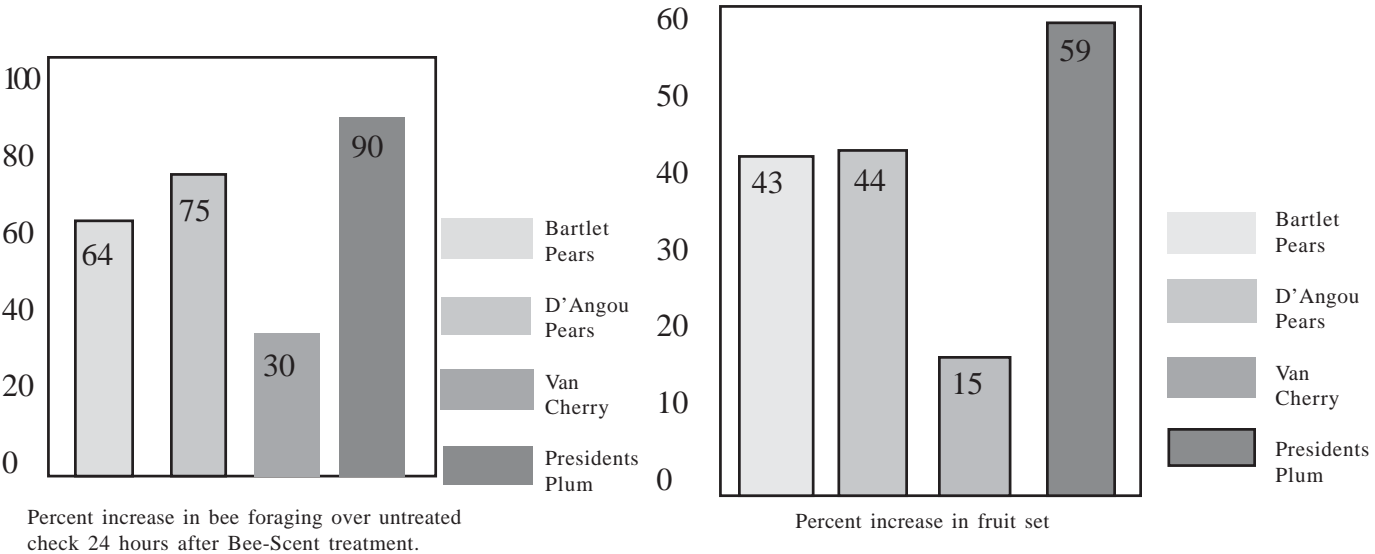
Cherry and plum varieties vary from self-fruitful to self-unfruitful yet research shows cross pollination by bees improves fruit set in all types. The early

bloom of both crops is often accompanied by inclement weather which inhibits bee pollinating activity. BeeScent works to insure a high number of bee visits to each bloom by increasing bee foraging. More pollen is transferred so fruit set increases. Increased set means increased yield and is an obvious economic benefit to cherry growers.

In plums, blossoms must be pollinated by inter-planted pollenizer trees so active bees are necessary. Bee-Scent contributes to thorough pollen distribution even in hard to pollinate varieties like Red and Black Beauts. Maximum pollination is always the best policy. Thinning can correct an excessive set, but nothing a grower can do will put more fruit on a tree after the pollination window closes.

Effects of BEE-SCENT on Pears, Plums & Cherries*

*Tests - Yakima Valley, Washington
Dr. D. Mayer WSU



Percent increase in bee foraging over untreated check 24 hours after Bee-Scent treatment.

Percent increase in fruit set

BEE-SCENT Application Recommendations

Pears, Plums & Cherries

Rate - Two quarts of BEE-SCENT per acre; (4.75 - 5 liters per hectare).

Water Dilution

Ground: 50 to 200 gallons per acre; (470 - 1870 liters/Ha.).

Aerial: 8 to 15 gallons per acre; (75 - 140 liters/Ha.).

Application Procedure - Early morning application, avoiding rain and irrigation schedules is important. Weather must be favorable for bee flight: i.e., sunny and warmer than 60°F, with winds less than 15 mph. To prevent interfering with the bee’s homing abilities, do not overspray hives.

Timing of Application - The first BEE-SCENT treatment should be made at 5 - 30% bloom. A second Bee-Scent treatment should be made at full (90% - 100%) bloom, typically 4 - 7 days later.

Chemical Compatibility - Do not mix with insecticides toxic to bees. To safeguard bees do not apply bee toxic chemicals during active bee pollination periods. Bee-Scent is compatible with Bt based bioinsecticides, and many fungicides and micronutrients. To avoid interference with the pheromone “message” check with your local dealer about tank-mixture additives with Bee-Scent.

Hive Numbers and Placement - It is important that growers work with their beekeeper to insure each orchard is supplied with an adequate number of strong hives.

Ideally, bees should be delivered to the area one day before the planned BEE-SCENT treatment. This will prevent bees from becoming habituated on a competing nearby crop or wildflowers.

Hives evenly distributed throughout the orchard ensures best results. Groups of colonies spaced at even intervals around the orchard periphery are a good alternative. In the case of a small block, colonies can be placed on the downwind edge of the area.

ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

Pheromones	9.5%
Other Natural Attractants	42.5%
Inert Ingredients	48.0%
Total	100.0%

Packaged:
2 1/2 Gallon Bottles
Two Bottles Per Case

