
METHYL BROMIDE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

New IR-4 Methyl Bromide Alternatives (MBA) Initiatives

IR-4 has been conducting large scale field programs in the crops utilizing the greatest amounts of methyl bromide, production strawberries and fresh market tomatoes, since 1998. Results from these trials have identified a number of products that, when used alone or in various combinations, can provide the same degree of efficacy and crop yields as standard methyl bromide/chloropicrin treatments currently in use by US producers of strawberries and fresh market tomatoes. Some of the experimental products that have shown promise in these and other IR-4 programs have been included in gladiolus bulb trials now underway in Bradenton, Florida, under the direction of Dr. James P. Gilreath. Experimental products under evaluation in gladiolus bulb tests include iodomethane plus chloropicrin from Arvesta (for-

merly Tomen Agro), MULTIGUARD (TM) FFA from Harborchem, PROPOZONE from ABERCO, PlantPro 20EC from Ajay, NA and a new product entry into IR-4 MBA programs, AU 110 (sodium azide) from Auburn University and the American Pacific Corporation.

Additional new MBA initiatives include MBA programs in green peppers in Florida. Two company-sponsored IR-4 MBA trials are underway in Bradenton, Florida in green peppers. These trials include, in addition to non-treated checks and methyl bromide standard treatments, Harborchem's MULTIGUARD (TM) FFA and MULTIGUARD (TM) FFA PLUS products and AU 110 (sodium azide) from Auburn University/American Pacific Corporation.

IR-4 MBA Tomato Report Distributed to Company Sponsors

The final report for the 1999-2000 IR-4 MBA tomato program has been distributed to all company sponsors as well as to members of the IR-4 Methyl Bromide Alternatives Advisory Panel. Included in this report are the results from four large scale tomato trials, two each in California and

Florida, initiated during the fall of 1999 and completed in 2000. For persons interested in receiving copies of the results from these trials, please contact Jack Norton, Manager, IR-4 MBA Programs (norton@aesop.rutgers.edu).

Dr. James P. Gilreath, University of Florida, Receives Award from EPA

Dr. Jim Gilreath, University of Florida's Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Bradenton, Florida, has been selected to receive the 2002 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award. Dr. Gilreath and others from the "Florida Team" were recognized for research with a coulter rig (the "Yetter Rig") which allows soil injections of fumigants without loss to the atmosphere. Winners of this prestigious award were from ten countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Japan, Russia, Swit-

zerland, Uganda, United Kingdom and the United States. Dr. Gilreath is a significant contributor to the IR-4 MBA programs and he is currently evaluating products brought to him from IR-4 and sponsoring companies. Trials now underway include fresh market tomatoes, strawberries, gladiolus bulbs, and green pepper. The "Yetter rig" has been used to apply the standard fumigants and several of the experimental materials in the IR-4 MBA programs.

Articles by Jack Norton