

Recipe

If you are lucky enough to still have avocados available for eating, here is a great recipe to go with those scallops. Or try it with crab meat.

Scallop and Avocado Salad

500gm scallops
1 1/2 cups orange juice
2 large avocados
1/2 red capsicum
1/2 green capsicum
1 orange segmented and skinned for garnish



Cut 500gm scallops in half and place in saucepan with orange juice. Bring to the boil, lower heat and simmer 12 minutes. Remove scallops with slotted spoon. Bring juice back to boil and reduce to about 1/2 cup in volume for use in dressing.

Dressing

Combine the following:

1/2 cup reduced orange juice
Pinch or 2 of sweet paprika
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tblsp wine vinegar
1/4 cup olive oil



Marinate scallops in dressing 1 hour before serving. To serve salad spoon marinated scallops onto a platter, decorate with avocado slices and capsicum slices. Pour a little dressing over salad and serve garnished with fresh orange segments around the edge of the platter. Serves 4.

Account Payments

We have been having some problems identifying which invoices some of you are paying. Please make sure you include the tear-off from the bottom of your invoices if you pay by cheque. If you pay by Internet Banking, please put your 5 digit PPIN in the code column and the invoice number you are paying, in the reference column. This makes life easier for us all.

From the Directors:

Fruit set appears reasonable to very good on many orchards. Much of the fruit is up high in the trees and may appear to be less than there actually is. However, many orchardists have declined to aim for exporting fruit due to the associated compliance and monitoring costs, and the perceived lack of value after the last heavy crop.

It is our opinion that fruit values will be best from export fruit this year, despite the current high prices for local market fruit. When you take a way the GST from export earnings, it can often justify the extra expense of compliance, depending on the size of your crop.

There is concern that some growers are choosing to monitor infrequently in an effort to save money, but there is a real danger that their fruit will have significant insect damage when it comes to harvest due to having missed the window of opportunity to spray those little blighters. We hope these growers do not then blame AvoGreen for not working.

Make sure you discuss with your advisor or packhouse before throwing away the opportunity to export.

Reminders:

Pesticide sprays may not be applied without justification from a monitoring from the end of January unless spraying a second spray for thrip. Growers may have taken advantage of the 'get out of jail free card' where one Leafroller spray could be applied without a monitoring between end of flowering and end of January—a very useful tool for such a critical period.



ENQUIRE NOW



Monitoring: *Avocado*
Tamarilo
Flowers
Citrus
Other Crops
AvoGreen Training
Soil Testing & Leaf Tests

Joke of the month:

Q: What do you call a bowl of guacamole rolling down a hill?

A: An avo-lunch



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“Working for the Grower”

**Happy
New Year!**

**Newsletter
February 2013**

From the Office

Sincere apologies for any inconvenience as Cathy and David build their cottage and shift into a new office on their property. For this reason they have not been near the office phones much, and often working on reports to growers late at night. So if you have made an enquiry and they have not got back to you as quickly as usual, please be patient. They have not forgotten and your query will be dealt with as soon as they are able to do so.



Progress on the buildings has finally sped up and they will be moving into the cottage and will be moving everything from the portable building into the new office around the 23rd February. There will still be some finishing to do on the office, but that will have to wait until funds become available at a later date. The pressure is really on! So again, thank you for your patience, and please feel free to call in and see what they are doing. A break for a cuppa would be very welcome.



Citrus Growers

Citrus Whitefly may continue throughout the summer. Passionvine hopper are numerous, and are causing sooty mould. Kelly Citrus Thrip are also on the rise, and growers are advised to monitor fortnightly through February for these.

Flower Growers

Two-spotted mite are still a plague on hydrangeas with the dry. One grower mentioned a large black predatory mite he fostered in shelter belts which kept mite levels down really well. Preliminary investigation has yielded no information about these

Leafroller Levels



Growers who sprayed early for Leafroller will have avoided major damage around the calyx of fruit. Now that fruit are touching, Leafroller are finding a nice sheltered hiding place. With the calm, warm, dry weather, numbers will continue to increase and caterpillars may be found where anything remains touching a fruit.

Monitor regularly (3 weekly at the least) for Leafroller, through February to the end of April to avoid major fruit damage.

Six-spotted mite

Although we have heard reports of mites being in large numbers at present on some orchards, we believe they are not six-spotted mite. Six-spotted mite definitely do not thrive in hot dry conditions. Most likely these are mis-identified fungal-feeding or predatory mites, (possibly Tydeid) which tend to move into the damaged areas on backs of leaves left by six-spotted mite.



Greenhouse Thrip

These will be the most trouble from now until the end of April, or longer. Where fruit touch, thrip are frequently being found. As they increase very quickly at this time of year, please make use of increased monitoring to keep on top of the thrip, grabbing the opportunity to spray early and not leaving numbers to climb. Once the numbers get up, it becomes very hard to control them.

Growers may spray a second spray without a monitoring for thrip, as long as it is completed within 21 days of the first thrip spray. This is because eggs are laid beneath the skin and will not be affected by spray. A second spray between 14 and 21 days should deal to hatching eggs.

Farmlands Card Holders



For new clients, did you know you can pay us using your Farmlands card? Contact Cathy at the office with your details.