



“Working for the Grower”



**Newsletter
June 2013**

From the Office

Our office is now manned more consistently. Thank you for your patience during the period of building! We are in the office, though it is not lined and is quite cold on these wintery days. Time to put up some lining and insulation. The wool insulation we are using makes such a huge difference. We are enjoying looking out the office windows at the view over the Kaimais.



David hard at work on invoices



Office dog, Chloe

Upcoming Events

We have been invited to participate in the upcoming BOP Young Fruit Grower of the Year 2013, taking place at the TECT Arena on Wednesday 26th June. This will be a fun and exciting day followed by a gala dinner. There will be a number of contestants who have to undertake a series of practical and theoretical tests to find the best Young Fruit Grower for the Bay of Plenty. The winner gets to go on to compete next month for the NZ Grower of the Year Award. For more information, visit the AIC website via our website. Look for the AvoGreen logo and click on it.

9th—12th September are the dates for the 5th New Zealand and Australian Avocado Grower’s Conference. The conference is being held at the ASB Arena, Baypark; a good opportunity to attend an international conference without all the expense of travelling overseas. This conference is focusing on the Nutritional Values of avocado, with some very interesting speakers. Plan your time off work now and book in by visiting: www.avocadoconference.co.nz

Leafroller Levels

These have crept up in the last month. If you haven’t had a monitor recently, we suggest you do so before winter conditions prevent spraying.



Six-spotted mite

A couple of blocks we monitor have had leaf fall due to mites which is unusual at this time of the year. Cleaning up mites before winter is advised if totals are over 10 sites for the medium and high severities (5-10 OR 10 mites/leaf) or over 20 in the low severity (<5/leaf). Spraying now could avoid a sudden explosion in Spring, when rain and flowering can prevent spraying. It is also advisable to keep up the monitoring for Six spotted mite during the winter months as we have noticed they are around in large numbers much earlier over the last couple of years.

Greenhouse Thrip

Make sure you are free of thrip before reducing monitoring frequency going into winter. There have been many orchards recently (early June) with over threshold results, some extremely high numbers in fact. Thrip have been very late this year and seem to have left their final assault till now.

Scale

Some new scale has been found over the last couple of months. Our scouts will be looking for them on fruit and leaves during each orchard monitor.

Beneficials

The following have been found in good numbers on some orchards lately:

Lacewing

Predatory wasp

Stethorus bifidus

T Pyri

Wirlygig

Psocid



This is probably because the softer sprays are being applied lately. Many of these will be around to feed on the increasing Six spot presence.

Recipe

Did you know:

You can freeze whole ripe avocados. They are great for guacamole, or dessert recipes such as this.

SOUR CREAM AVODAMIA PIE

Crust

80g roasted ground nuts
(macadamias are nice)

130g flour

60g castor sugar

125 g butter

Filling

300ml sour cream

200g sugar

2 tbsp cornflour

4 egg yolks

1tsp vanilla essence

2 avocados mashed

2 tsp gelatine

3 tbsp hot water

Mix ground nuts with flour and sugar. Cut small pieces of softened butter into dry ingredients and rub with fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Mix in enough water to make a soft dough.

Press into sides and base of a 20cm pie dish. Bake at 180°C for approximately 25 minutes. Cool.

To make filling, heat sour cream in a double boiler until warm. Stir in sugar and cornflour. Then stir in lightly beaten egg yolks. Blend well, then bring to boil. Simmer 20 minutes.

Remove from the heat and add vanilla essence. And mashed avocado. Dissolve gelatine in hot water and add to mixture. Mix well.

Spoon into crust and chill. Before serving, garnish top with chopped roasted macadamia nuts.

Bon appetite!



Reminders:

Soil and leaf tests were due April—May. If you contact us right away, we could come to your orchard this week. Go onto our website, under Soil and Leaf Tests, to fill in the request form. If you don't have internet, phone David at the office and he will ask the relevant questions, or phone Cathy or Jojette evenings.



Our sampling costs, as detailed on our website :

\$25 + GST for either a soil or a leaf test taken whilst monitoring for pests.

\$47 + GST for either a soil or a leaf test taken when no monitoring is carried out.

Combined leaf and soil tests will incur an extra \$10 + GST.

The results can be sent to you and/or your advisor.

The lab test will be invoiced to you separately by the laboratory you choose to use.

Farmlands

A short reminder, you can pay using your Farmlands Card if you so wish, Contact the office with your membership name and number and we will put your next invoice through to Farmlands.

www.cropcheck.co.nz

Remember to keep checking our website for the latest pest alerts. This is on the right hand side on our front page. And did you know that you can go direct to the AIC website from our website? Look for the AvoGreen logo on our front page and click on it. Also we have a list of all sprayers, consultants, packhouses and shortly apiarists under links.

ENQUIRE NOW



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

Quiz—answers in the next newsletter, but you won't need them will you?

1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. ...**What was the third child's name?**
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and he wears size 13 trainers....**What does he weigh?**

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