Zeal® Miticide Best Practices For Optimal Mite Control

Mites can be a significant threat to almond crops. Populations can grow rapidly, with 8 to 10 generations infesting fields throughout a season. And, damage may not be noticeable until their populations have built up and are out of control.

Zeal® Miticide provides long-lasting control of two-spotted spider mite, Pacific mite and red mite. As the industry standard, Zeal continues to deliver:

- Long-lasting residual miticide activity
- Tough on mites but easy on beneficials
- Translaminar activity—Controls mites on both sides of the leaf

How To Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>3 oz/A. Apply only once per season.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timing</td>
<td>Apply when populations are building but before threshold is reached</td>
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<tr>
<td>Method</td>
<td>Ground application—good coverage is essential; use adequate water for uniform coverage</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI</td>
<td>28 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>REI</td>
<td>12 hours</td>
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</tbody>
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Zeal is a Mite Growth Regulator and Targets Mites at All Life Cycles

Zeal targets all mite life stages—from eggs to maturity. Zeal sterilizes adult females and their eggs, kills eggs on foliage and nymphs by inhibiting molting.
When To Apply Zeal—Mite Thresholds

Apply Zeal up to the mite threshold where 15% of leaves sampled have a mite present (adults, nymphs and/or eggs). However, threshold can be adjusted upward 5–10% if populations are not rapidly expanding due to cool weather and/or populations are not rapidly expanding due to abundance of mite predators. Note: Hot temperatures cause mite population to explode (quickly exceeding threshold).

Zeal—How To Maximize Residual

- Spray based on threshold (not calendar or crop stage)
- Early-season broad spectrum insecticides will kill beneficials and shorten residual control
- Broad spectrum NOW (navel orangeworm) insecticides will kill beneficials and shorten residual control
- Translaminar activity is limited in older, hardened, dusty and stressed leaves

Zeal Best Management Practices

- Allow Zeal at least 10–14 days to reduce mite populations below threshold levels before deciding to spray the field again with another miticide
- Coverage is essential
  - Spray field at calibrated speed. Calibrated at 2.5 mph, sprayed at 3.5 mph cuts rate 29%.
  - Most miticides are not systemic, small trees outgrow treatments
  - Avoid adjuvants known to inhibit translaminar activity, such as sticker-type
  - Every other row applications do not provide acceptable coverage