

CITRUS

A Step Closer To Abscission

photo courtesy of Odo International

An Experimental Use Permit will be submitted to the EPA this year for CMNP, an abscission agent that will aid in mechanical harvesting of citrus.

Research is demonstrating that efficacy is promoted by uniform coverage of the agent throughout the canopy.

The 2009-2010 citrus-harvesting season will be an anticipating time for the research and development of the abscission compound, CMNP. Having shown to be the best candidate for loosening sweet oranges, it will gain much attention from the Florida citrus industry, as its registration progresses through EPA testing protocols.

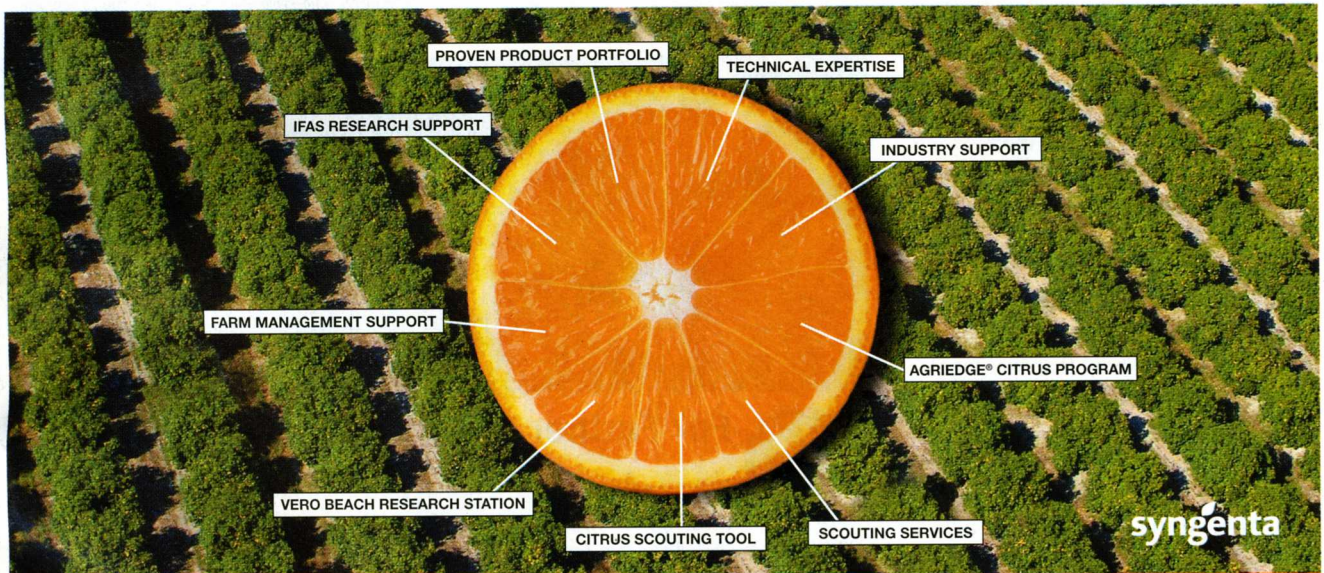
Early Efforts

Early abscission efficacy studies to identify compounds that would aid mechanical harvesting were first conducted with funding from USDA in the late 1960s. That support was lost in the 1970s due to lack of funding for the

development of "labor-saving" technology in agriculture. Additionally, severe freezes in the 1980s significantly reduced Florida citrus production and bearing acreage, and interest in mechanical harvesting research and development waned. In the late 1990s, however, interest in abscission compounds for mechanical harvesting emerged again due to the shortage and expense of field labor.

Improving Harvesting

The Florida Department of Citrus' Citrus Harvesting Research Advisory Council initiated long-term funding for research on abscission compounds and mechanical harvest-



Innovative products are only part of what we do.

Healthy groves of trees with minimal pressure from insects, mites, weeds and diseases are the very foundation for healthy yields — and profits — for years to come. At Syngenta, we're proud of the role we play in keeping citrus groves healthy and productive — with industry standards like Princep®, Solicam®, Touchdown HiTech® and Gramoxone Inteon® for weed control, Agri-Mek® and Clinch® for mite and insect control, and Ridomil Gold® and Abound® for disease control. But we also believe it's important to support your business in other ways as well. Like our soil bioassay lab at Vero Beach. Or our Farm Management Software, Citrus Scout® Tool, Customer Center and CitrusSolutions.com. Or our field technicians, who can quickly identify potential problems right in the grove. For us, it's not just about selling you a product. It's about investing in our citrus industry together.

©2009 Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., P.O. Box 18300, Greensboro, NC 27419. Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. Gramoxone Inteon and Agri-Mek are Restricted Use Pesticides. Agri-Mek is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or to residues on blooming crops and weeds. Do not apply Agri-Mek or allow it to drift onto blooming plants if bees are foraging in the treated area. Abound®, AgriEdge®, Agri-Mek®, Citrus Scout®, Clinch®, Gramoxone Inteon®, Princep®, Ridomil Gold®, Solicam®, Touchdown HiTech® and the Syngenta logo are registered trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. Syngenta Customer Center: 1-866-SYNGENT(A) (796-4368). www.citrusolutions.com MW 1CIT9006-H1 1/09

