

## Samurai Systemic Insecticide Testimonial

James Douglas, Hansen Orchards

James Douglas is an orchard manager at Hansen Orchards, a fourth-generation family-owned business growing, packing and marketing over 200 hectares of apples and cherries. They are located in the pristine environment of the Huon Valley in southern Tasmania and are a past winner of Exporter of the Year for the apple and pear industry's National Awards for Excellence.

While they grow a number of varieties at Hansen's, James noticed that it is in some of the Jazz, Gala and Fuji blocks where they have a history of Woolly Apple Aphid (WAA) damage. Woolly aphids are sucking insects which can have a big impact on apple trees. They feed on leaves, buds, twigs, bark and roots causing twisted and curled leaves, yellowed foliage, poor plant growth, low plant vigour, and even dieback, particularly on already stressed trees.

James said, "In previous years we have had extensive damage around the roots and throughout the trees which in some cases has let to defoliation".

Looking for another tool to put in his armoury against this damaging pest, James spoke to Jack Bartels from Sumitomo Chemical Australia, "**Jack gave Samurai Systemic Insecticide™ a pretty strong recommendation, so we decided to give it a go**".

Samurai was applied to those blocks with a history of heavy WAA infestation. The product was applied as a soil drench via drip irrigation at a rate of 2.5 kg per ha. Application timing was just after green tip.

James told us that the results were excellent. "**It really did everything that it promised**" he said, "**The blocks are super clear with no WAA to be seen which is great, and although we were not chasing Harlequin beetle with this product, it seems to have cleared them out too**".

We asked James how the Samurai application had affected his beneficial insects. "**If there was any effect, it certainly wasn't noticeable**" he replied.

Given the success with Samurai this season, we asked James what he would say to orchardists who were considering putting Samurai into their pest management program.

**"If they are looking for another tool in the toolbox and one that does exactly what it says on the tin, then definitely give Samurai a go"**.

Samurai Insecticide controls most major pests of pome and stone fruit. It has systemic and residual activity and can be applied as a soil drench or foliar spray.



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about Samurai Systemic Insecticide

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