

Results using the PollenSmart by Wrangler

T&G Kerikeri's own testing in 2017 on their own varieties.

Methodology Trial 1

- The trial was conducted in a block with no male flowers
- Bees were present during flowering at a rate of 10 hives/ha
- 20 canes were identified and tagged prior to flowering
- During flowering 6 flower buds of the same age (popcorn stage) on each of the 20 canes were identified and randomly allocated to one of 6 treatments using coloured wool
- The treatments evaluated were; hand pollination (optimal pollination), 1,2,3,4 or 5 applications of pollen using the Wrangler
- Pollen was applied daily at a rate of 400g/ha
- Once the flowers had been exposed to their allocated number of pollen applications, the fruit was bagged so that the flowers would not be exposed to any further pollen.
- The bags were applied late in the day of the final pollen application to allow for a full day(s) of bee activity
- The bags remained on the fruit until after fruit set at which time they were removed.
- At harvest each of the canes were harvested separately and weighted with average weight determined for each of the treatments

Results Trial 1

- 5 applications gave an equivalent result to hand pollination
- 2 applications increased the fresh weight by 33% over 1 application
- 3 applications increased the fresh weight by an additional 5% over 2 applications
- There was no difference in weight between 3 and 4 applications