holistic Orchard Network Grow Organic Apples

FORUM

Registered: 10 years ago

Posts: 58

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TerraNeem

Posted by Zea Sonnabend Forum List Message List New Topic Zea Sonnabend **TerraNeem**

January 30, 2018 09:56AM

Have any of you heard of or use a new product called TerraNeem EC? It is a cold pressed whole neem formulation that comes already blended with adjuvants so it doesn't need heating or additives to get it onto the plants. It is OMRI listed but not yet registered in California. The company is called Terramera and the website is <u>Terramera.com</u>. The website is not very useful. If someone tries it, please report back here.

Fruitilicious Farm

Zone 9b in California

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 02/25/2018 05:02PM by Michael Phillips.

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Mike Biltonen Registered: 11 years ago Re: TerraNeem Posts: 298

January 30, 2018 02:42PM

I looked at their web site, and you're right, it is not very helpful. They do not even have a contact page. and Looks to be more for consumers than farmers. I did find an email and phone number so will see if I can dig up some info on them. I'll report back what I find. Looks interesting though.

Mike Biltonen, Know Your Roots

Zone 5b in New York

Reply Quote

Michael Phillips

Re: TerraNeem

February 25, 2018 06:14PM

Moderator

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 621

There are more and more players in the world of neem every day, or so it might seem.

First, to be totally upfront, a primary business sponsor of this network and thus this discussion forum is Ahimsa Organics. This is the source of unadulterated, 100%, never frigged neem oil that I speak about in my books and list on our Grower Resources page. Other distributors on that resource page also carry neem, be it pure neem or extracted patented blah. TerraNeem qualifies as a legitimate neem product . . . but you need to know more of the backstory to appreciate the intrigue.

Our neemlady here in the states has long worked with her brother in India to see to fair trade sourcing and maximum quality oil. A few years ago his business was sold to new partners, including a "plasma version" of neem which had been formulated to be more convenient to work with right from the jug. These partners now supply neem oil in three grades, which I will call cosmetic-grade, virgin-grade, and extra-virgin-grade. All are cold-processed seed oils but the difference lies in azadirachtin content. Every batch of oil can differ with respect to ppm analysis, so suffice to say that 1000/2000/3000 ppm somewhat define the three grades. Adding to the ambiguity is the fact that analysis in an Indian lab often seems to show slightly higher counts than Canadian results. Again, every batch can differ and thus this relative range approach.

All supplies of the extra-virgin grade will now be directed solely into the "new" TerraNeem product. What's actually in that jug is 85% cold-processed neem oil coupled with alcohol-based adjuvants to make it ready to spray from the get go. TerraNeem comes with an EPA registration number for those who require the bureaucratic touch. Ahimsa Organics will be carrying this neem product in addition to the virgin grade that I plan to continue to use. The azadirachtin content of either works for holistic orchard use.

The story continues in that NymBioSys brand of pure neem oil has been registered by Ahimsa Organics with the EPA as well. This is sold through distributors only. It's the very same virgin oil as in the Ahimsa Organics jug.

Finally we come to cost. I will present this in terms of a single gallon, noting that bulk pricing correspondingly goes down across the board if you purchase a four-gallon pack or a drum. These dollar signs are approximate, based on my understanding of current wholesale pricing

and an assumed 50% margin by whoever the distributor. Still, this is what to expect at the retail point this upcoming season:

- •TerraNeem (extra-virgin, EPA number, ready-to-go) \$160
- •NymBioSys (virgin grade, EPA number, need to emulsify) \$120
- •Ahimsa Organics (virgin grade, need to emulsify) \$80 plus

Not every day you'll see investigate journalism in this forum but there you have it.

Lost Nation Orchard

Zone 4b in New Hampshire

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 02/25/2018 06:22PM by Michael Phillips.

Reply Quote

Peter Fisher Registered: 10 years ago Re: TerraNeem Posts: 82

February 25, 2018 08:22PM

At double the price I can't see buying Terraneem. But I would love to find a way to incorporate an adjuvant like theirs into the early spring sprays when the combination of cold weather and hard well water leaves me with a lot of yellow gummy residue at the end of spraying despite my best efforts at pre-warming the water, adding lemon juice to soften it and stirring in lots of Dr Bonners soap before adding the neem to the tank.

Turkey Creek Orchard

Solon, Iowa (zone 5A)

Reply Quote

Paul Weir Registered: 11 years ago Re: TerraNeem

Posts: 187 February 26, 2018 03:45AM

Nice investigative reporting indeed . . . pour that man a frosty pint!

I am also seeing neem this and neem that, even in our smallest local hardware stores garden sections now too. Interestingly enough, as of last spring 2017, I am also seeing Ahimsa Organics 1 gallon jugs stocked in several local rock/soil material suppliers locally here in Grass Valley too . . . I have been sure to take time to thank them for carrying the Ahimsa Organics product cause you never know when I am going to need a gallon in a pinch and being able to pick it up locally is super sweet!!

Gopher Hill Apples

Zone 8 in California

Reply Quote

Zea Sonnabend Registered: 10 years ago Re: TerraNeem Posts: 58

February 28, 2018 09:26AM

Thanks Michael! I knew there would be a backstory.

Fruitilicious Farm

Zone 9b in California

Reply Quote

Michael Phillips Moderator

Re: TerraNeem Registered: 11 years ago

March 11, 2020 05:01PM Posts: 621

Terramera has decided to be more competitive as we come into the 2020 growing season. You will find TerraNeem EC selling for \$58 a gallon at Seven Springs Farm. Usha at Ahimsa Organics will be adjusting her price as well in this next week. This could possibly be a useful neem variant for those with hard water issues. I'm still full on board for 100% neem oil and quite willing to pay a few more dollars per gallon for the full fatty acid profile.

Lost Nation Orchard

Zone 4b in New Hampshire

Reply Quote

Brandt Schisler Re: TerraNeem

Posts: 28 March 29, 2020 11:20PM

I spoke with Usha from Ahimsa Organics a couple of days ago and for a 4 gallon pack she is now at \$51 a gallon. However, A 2% dilution ratio is recommended by the manufacturer. So, that would mean a gallon of Terra Neem EC is needed for every 50 gallons of water. In the end, it may be cheaper per gallon, but it would be more expensive than her 100% neem oil if used at the recommended .5% neem concentration. Am I correct on this or would Terra Neem EC need to be used at a .5% concentration for orchard applications?

Registered: 5 years ago

Thank you,

Brandt

Hickory Ridge Orchard Zone 6a in Missouri Reply Quote Michael Phillips Re: TerraNeem March 31, 2020 04:08PM

Moderator

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 621

I had to go down in the cellar and pull out a jug of TerraNeem so I could read about recommended rates. (Terramera sent me a case each of TerraNeem and Rango last year so I could trial their two neem products.) The 2019 label recommends using a 0.6% concentration of TerraNeem as an insecticide and a 1.3% concentration as a fungicide and for sever insect infestations. Keep in mind this is high-quality neem oil diluted with alcohol-based adjutants so as to mix into water without use of soap emulsifier. Thus there's a reduction in fat content (by approximately 15%) which perhaps explains being "safe" with foliar concentration rates above the usual 0.5%. I would tread gently here regardless.

Lost Nation Orchard

Zone 4b in New Hampshire

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 03/31/2020 06:12PM by Michael Phillips.

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