GETTING THE BEST COLOUR FOR GRAPES

RLF China's Technical Team bring a new Approach to this Process

Authorised for release by :

Melanie Wu,
Deputy General Manager, RLF China,
and translated by Echo Dong

Grape colouring is a prime concern for grape growers in China as it has a direct relationship with the economic benefit of each year's harvest.

Many grape growers will fertilise during this growth period to achieve the effects of increased sugar content and more appealing colour. But, it is often an unsatisfactory process. In the later growth stages, there may also be problems such as soft fruit and difficulty in colouring because of the types of fertiliser chosen.

The RLF Technical Team recently collaborated with Professor Yao, a senior agronomist of Hu County Agricultural Technology Center to bring about a better understanding of the grape colouring period for the grape growers of this region.

Professor Yao explaining the grape colouring program to growers

The Grape Colouring Program Explained

- Before applying the regulator, **furrow inject** the vines with RLF specialty crop nutrition fertiliser **Power PK**
- Spray the regulator uniformly on the leaf according to the recommended dosage (being very mindful not to change the concentration specified)
- Three days later, **foliar spray** with RLF **Power PK** at 600 times dilution at an interval of every four-five days

Follow the Case-Sharing Demonstration

Location	Huangdui Village, Caotang Town, Hu County
Crop Variety	Hutai 8
Timing & Method	• 28th July 2108 – furrow inject with RLF **Power PK** at 600 times dilution • 27th July 2018 – foliar spray the plant regulator • 29th July 2018 – foliar spray with RLF **Power PK** at 600 times dilution

Follow the Demonstration Effects and Benefits

The following photo images show a definite trend towards good coloured, healthy grapes.

grapes before being treated with the RLF products

the application effects on 28th July 2018

the application effects on 29th July 2018

the application effects on 30th July 2018

the application effects on 31st July 2018

the application effects on 1st August 2018

the application effects on 2nd August 2018

The sugar content of the grapes treated with RLF products, and as tested on 2nd August 2018 was **17.2**. Ten days later, the fruit can be sold in market, and the sugar content is expected to reach **19**.

It can be seen that on the 2nd August – after the 8th day of spraying – the whole bunch has become burgundy.

The grape colour of the whole garden has reached 65%, and it is expected that the colouring will be completed after two more applications of the crop nutrition program.

August is in the critical period of grape colour change.

In the first three days of August, there were more than a dozen grape grower training sessions, and each training attracted many local growers.

By explaining the knowledge of the grape colouring period, together with the application methods of the colour transformation program to growers, the farmers showed a strong interest in being involved with RLF's innovative products and grape colouring program.

The effects of this program significantly helps the grapes to colour evenly, increases the fruit firmness, plus it extends storage life and resistance to the detrimental effects of handling and transportation. This improves the commodity value and brings greater financial benefit for the grower – a very strong incentive to consider the benefits of the RLF crop nutrition program.

Imparting Knowledge to Grape Growers

The following photoboard shows the different training scenes.











Added Notes and Caution for using Regulator

There are some situations that grape growers should pay close attention to when using regulator.

1. It is NOT recommended to use a colour regulator if the vines show features of high yield, large ears, double ears, weak tree vigour, fewer leaves or serious yellowing – in fact anything that is beyond the tree load capacity.

2. Vines with severe soft fruit and/or cracked fruits is strictly prohibited from using the colour regulator.

3. It is strictly prohibited to use the colour regulator during periods of high temperature. Advised temperature conditions are below 30 degrees, with application done between 8pm – 10pm.

About RLF PowerPK

Click here to view this Product Brochure

- ✓ **is a highly concentrated potassium and phosphorus product, free of chloride and sulphate**
- ✓ **is manufactured to supply phosphorus and potassium through the soil as in injection and fertigation, but equally can be used as a foliar spray**
- ✓ **its citric acid component feeds soil bacteria**
- ✓ **its citric acid component unlocks phosphorus and trace elements in the soil**
- ✓ **it delivers achievable benefits from the chelating properties of the citric acid**
- ✓ **is a potassium source, free of sulphate**