



FireLine™ - A New Standard for Controlling Fire Blight in Apples and Pears

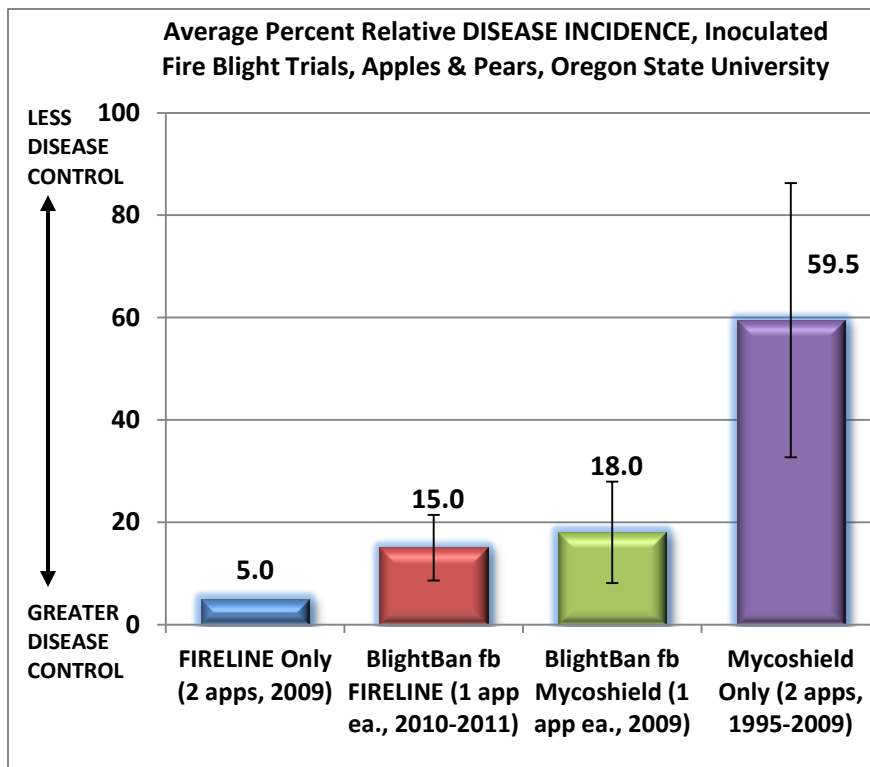
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AgroSource has been promoting **FireLine™** and **FireWall™** as the “New Standards” for fire blight control in apples and pears. The active ingredient in FireLine, oxytetracycline, has been a primary product for fire blight (*Erwinia amylovora*) control for more than 30 years. Yet is FireLine really a better product than its direct competitor, Mycoshield®? Dr. Ken Johnson, Professor in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University, has conducted inoculated replicated fire blight trials on apples and pears continuously since 1995 using Mycoshield as the standard treatment. In summarizing these trials, Dr. Johnson noted “lots of consistency problems with Mycoshield” and an average relative disease incidence of nearly 60%.

In 2009, Dr. Johnson switched from Mycoshield to FireLine and reported relative disease incidence of just 5%, stating ...“we never saw a number close to this in 15 years of Mycoshield trials. Based on the body of data, FireLine relative to Mycoshield has been a consistent performer.” See chart at right.¹ Commenting on the superior physical and chemical characteristics of FireLine, Dr. Johnson stated FireLine is ... “so much easier to work with compared to Mycoshield ... because it dissolves so nicely. Mycoshield, in contrast, does not mix up as well and always has a stony grit in it that can clog nozzles. We use FireLine exclusively and have no intention of going back.”

Dr. Johnson’s trials also revealed integrating a ‘biological’ with FireLine may be an effective sequence for controlling fire blight under light-to-moderate disease pressure. Since 2010, Dr. Johnson has been using a ‘biological’ followed by (fb) FireLine treatment as the standard in all inoculated replicated fire blight trials on apples and pears.

Consult with your professional pest control advisor/consultant or area extension agent. Always read and follow label instructions. For more information and access to previous Technical Bulletins, visit the AgroSource website at www.agrosourcenet.com.



¹Data summarized from research trial work conducted by Dr. Ken Johnson, Oregon State University. Comments quoted (by permission) do not constitute product endorsement by Dr. Johnson or Oregon State University. FireLine and FireWall are trademarks of AgroSource, Inc. Mycoshield and BlightBan are registered trademarks of Nufarm Americas, Inc.