



Eco-friendly bird repellent now available

Bird damage is one of the major constraints affecting sunflower production in South Africa. The physical damage caused by birds may become infection sites for *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (head rot) with the possibility of infecting an entire field. Not only does bird damage lead to significant yield losses, but it also poses a food safety issue.

Voëlvry® (L11367, Act 36 of 1947) is a new eco-friendly and non-toxic bird repellent, registered for use on sunflowers and various other crops. It is suitable for aerial applications and effective on all bird species.

Methyl anthranilate

Voëlvry® contains the active ingredient methyl anthranilate (MA). MA is naturally present in fruits and plants and, due to its unique scent and taste, is frequently used as flavouring in food and beverages. It functions as a bird repellent by irritating the pain receptor connected to birds' senses of taste and smell.

Non-toxic repellent mechanism

Birds have the remarkable ability to adapt to new habits in response to physical stress and environmental changes. Voëlvry® temporarily irritates the bird's eyes and mucus membranes, causing the birds to feel uncomfortable and stressed. This will repel established birds for the season without permanent damage to the birds.

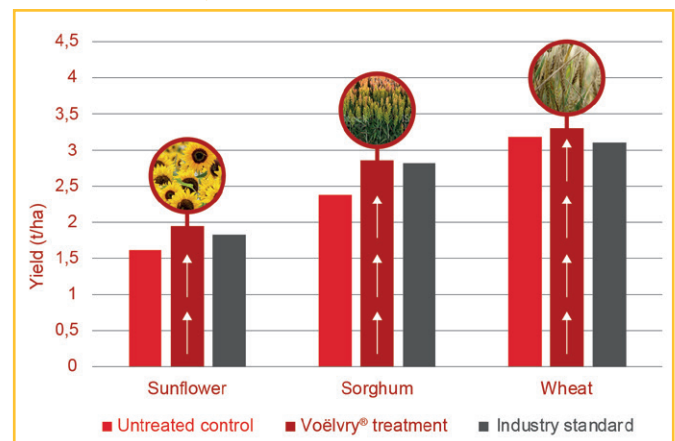
Birds must inhale Voëlvry® to be effective. They will associate the pain stimulus with the site and not return for the rest of the season. All pain effects dissipate when the bird leaves the treated area. Furthermore, MA degrades in the atmosphere after ten to 14 days by reacting with photochemically-produced hydroxyl radicals and is therefore environmentally safe.

Banish all birds with Voëlvry®

The formulation of Voëlvry® effectively deters all bird species. Not only is the product eco-friendly and non-toxic, but no phytotoxicity is applicable when used according to label recommendations. The active ingredient, MA, does not require restrictive pre-harvest or re-entry intervals and is also exempted from compliance with maximum residue levels.

Voëlvry® is easily applied via aerial applications and effective at a low dosage of 2l/ha. For the best results, apply this product in calm weather when rain is not predicted for the next 24 hours, and repeat every ten to 14 days.

Figure 1: An illustration of how Voëlvry® can have a positive influence on crop yields.



Various field trials carried out on sunflowers, sorghum and wheat over different seasons and bioclimatic zones show average yield increases of up to 20% compared to untreated controls when following the application recommendations as set out on the product label.

Nutrico is the proud manufacturer of various specialised biopesticides including Voëlvry®. We have a team of technical experts available to help you find the best science-backed solution for your pest management application.

For more information, visit www.nutrico.co.za or phone 011 392 4072 or 021 807 5922.