

Field-day:

Spray Rates and Equipment

Sunday 26 November

Learn about spray types, application rates, equipment and spray timing to combat walnut blight, and observe both helicopter and ground-based spray rigs in action.

Spray expert **David Manktelow** will speak about spray concentration and rate, droplet size and spray application technologies, and will demonstrate correct spray coverage on the leaves using white kaolin in the water being sprayed on the trees.

Tim Jenkins will speak about spray timing for maximum efficacy against walnut blight.

1:00pm: Meet at the BHU packing-shed at Lincoln University to hear David Manktelow and Tim Jenkins speak.

1:45pm: We will move to Lincoln University walnut trial block where

David will demonstrate how to set up a sprayer to achieve the required spray

rate and droplet size, and will test it on the dense-canopy 20-year-old trees in the trial block.

2:30pm: We will drive to the orchard of Ian Sheerin (387 Hamptons Road) to see a demonstration of ground-based and helicopter spraying on younger trees (15 years old).

4:00pm approx. finish

Check Website for the latest.

News

The NZWIG committee has been thinking.

You'd expect them to do that, but recently they met for four hours to focus on the best ways to develop your industry over the next two years.

They decided that our major long-term goals should remain: promoting quality, achieving a stable industry, providing education for growers, promoting walnuts, and research.

The top priorities for the next two years will include, developing an export marketing strategy and building relationships with propagators and processors to ensure that NZWIG represents the whole walnut growing community. They will also be holding more field days, continuing the research into managing blight, alternative rootstocks and varieties, and benchmarking.

The committee will be improving communication with members through the newsletter, website and emails.

Get More Involved

Are you ready to get more involved in your industry?

The Walnut Industry Group is doing new and interesting things and we need people who can contribute their time and skills. It's a great way to meet other enthusiastic walnut growers and learn a few things as you go.

Our **Education Committee** needs people who enjoy organising events. You'd be involved in setting up field days, tours and other events that help growers network and learn the best ways to grow and harvest walnuts.

The **Research Committee** needs people interested in research – though you don't need a science background to join. The committee is involved in some fascinating projects, particularly finding ways to better control walnut blight. We've recently seen the results of the Committee's work on pruning. It's useful, practical information for all growers.

Our **Communication Promotion and Stability Committee** needs someone with

people skills to provide a link with WIG and the propagators and processors. The same committee looks after the walnut growers' manual, so if you have writing skills, let us know.

The **Quality Committee** is responsible for developing standards for walnut growers. It's responsible for guiding us through the Horticultural Exporting Authority process which will mean that we can control the standard of the walnuts exported from New Zealand and build our reputation as growers of gourmet walnuts.

We need people who can get involved in **networking** with other growers in regions outside Canterbury.

Some roles don't involve regular meetings. None of them is excessively time-consuming. You'll still have time to work on your walnut trees.

Contact a member of the Walnut Industry Group committee today.

NZWIG Directory

NZWIG Committee:

- John Blanchard, (**Treasurer**)
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Other key contacts:

- Newsletter/Website:
Graeme Nicholas,
graeme@nicholas.net.nz
- Propagators' levy scheme: TBA
- Processors' club (C,S,P): TBA
- Growers Manual Editor: Ralph Brown
- Distributor of Growers Manual: Glenys Pluck, 03-347-9109
Dunns Crossing Road, RD5
Christchurch
- Distributor of Health in a Shell: John Blanchard
- Media comment: Ralph Brown
- Regional Coordinators: TBA

Sub-committees:

Education & Events: Nelson Hubber, Don Wills Alan Robinson, Frank Brenmuhl + Regional Coordinators

Communication, Stability, Promotion:

Ralph Brown, Heather North, Graeme Nicholas, Glenys Pluck, John Blanchard

Research: Clive Marsh, John Blanchard, Heather North, Graeme Nicholas, Barbara Nicholas, Stephen Murchison

Quality: Russell Hurst, Andrew Horsbrugh, Mike Caldwell

NutNZ rep: Paul Visser

KAKAPO MATING SEASON

Once again the kakapo need our help.

Currently they are being fed small green pine cones and will soon have their diet changed to small green walnuts. Can you help?

Malcolm and Jenny Lawrence, at 'A Cracker of a Nut' are co-ordinating the collection of green walnuts for the 2006/2007 kakapo breeding programme.

The most important factor is that the nuts should not be sprayed. It is mainly the wild or seedling walnuts that should be collected or unsprayed green walnuts from orchard trees.

The kakapo breeding programme is centred on Codfish Island, south of Invercargill. The Department of Conservation has service flights to the island fortnightly and to make sure the walnuts get to their destination on time they would need to be delivered to 'A Cracker of a Nut' on the following days:

Thursday 23 November
Thursday 7 December
Tuesday 19 December
Thursday 4 January
Thursday 18 January
Thursday 1 February
Thursday 15 February

Each shipment date will require 15kg of green walnuts

The first two dates are the ones where most assistance is required as the green walnut are so small – can you help?

This is a community service on behalf of 'A Cracker of a Nut'

Please call 03 3478 103 or email crackernut@clear.net.nz if you can find some good green walnuts for the cause. Place in paper bags for delivery to the factory.

Successful Field-day on Pruning

At the end of June growers gathered to learn more about pruning young trees. The day attracted much interest. Trees of different ages were pruned and discussed to demonstrate light and medium pruning options.

Here Clive Marsh and Heather North lead a discussion on heading a one year-old.



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SOUTH OF THE SOUTH

WAITANGI HOLIDAY 3 – 6 February

SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY – WANAKA REGION

Depart Christchurch

9.30am Geraldine – commercial walnut orchard

Property of John and Liz Harmon, 101 Main road, Geraldine

This is one of earliest walnut orchards planted in Canterbury. It includes many of the early recommended varieties plus others. John and Liz are the third owners of the property since the orchard was planted. Many of the trees were propagated by Guy Goldsbrough an early pioneer of the NZ Tree Crops Association. The main problem that this orchard has faced is frost.

12.00 noon Lunch at Lake Tekapo BYO

2.30pm Wanaka – commercial walnut orchard

Property of Jeffrey and Margaret Feint, Narrandara, Mt Barker Road

An early orchard for this region. Planting began in the late 1980's with the main varieties including Rex, Meyric, Stan and Franquette. The orchard has had mixed success so far with problems concerning irrigation, animal and frost damage. Recently a new large planting has gone in plus a block put aside for the W4 Walnut Trial. Jeffrey and Margaret will be in Australia during our visit. We will be ably hosted by the farm managers, Lyn Eichel and Merv Driver who will show us some of their harvesting and sorting equipment.

6.30pm Walnut Themed Dinner at Te Tawara of Wanaka Heritage Park,
Cnr Cardrona Valley and Orchard Roads

A special walnut themed buffet dinner is being prepared for us. It includes main dishes, salads, vegetables and breads and condiments as follows:

- # casseroled venison with pickled walnuts
- # crispy skinned chicken breast with toasted walnut, caramelised onion cous cous stuffing
- # rustic rosemary potatoes
- # warm roasted vegetables with a balsamic and whole grain mustard seed dressing
- # seasonal garden salad
- # toasted walnut and wild rice salad

Cost per person \$40 : Buffet only. Please register on the enclosed form. Drinks and dessert are extra and can be paid for on the night.

SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY – CROMWELL REGION

9.30am Guivina Plantation – Wanaka/Cromwell Highway

Property of The first commercial guivina orchard planted in Central Otago.

11.30am Old Cromwell Town – 'Provisions', Melmore Terrace

Hosts Pauline Graham and Jane Shaw

Jane and Pauline specialise in making contemporary gourmet preserves and baking using fresh Central Otago ingredients wherever possible.

They will talk to us about how they got started Christmas 2003 and how their business has developed since that time. Walnuts feature in several of their product lines.

12.30pm Lunch at Old Cromwell Town lake side. (There is a good local café or BYO).

We may also have the opportunity of a guided tour of parts of the old town

2.00pm Cromwell – heritage walnut trees

Property of Adrian and Olivia Somerville, Walnut Grove, Queenstown Highway

The trees on this property were probably planted in the early 1900's – maybe earlier. Adrian and Olivia will share their knowledge of the trees and some of their frustrations regarding harvesting [sore backs] and marketing [where to sell them] over the years.

3.30pm Cromwell – 'The Big Picture' – The changing face of Central Otago

Meet six wine makers, hear their stories and visit their properties aboard this audio visual extravaganza. Educate your palate with an aroma and tasting experience.

We have arranged a group special at \$15 per person. Please register for the show on the enclosed form.

There is a café for coffee, muffins etc after the show. Also, an a la carte restaurant is available for evening dining. The evening is free for you to make your own arrangements.

MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY – ALEXANDRA REGION

9.00am 'Sunbury Park' apricot processing plant, Earnsclough Road, Clyde end.
Hosts: Wayne and Mary Ashton.

New season's apricots will still be passing through the processing plant. An earlier start today will allow us to view the full operation.

10.30am Omeo Exports – heritage walnut trees and commercial peonies.

Property of Tony and Judy Banks, Hawley Road, Alexandra

Some American walnut varieties were planted on this property in the early 1980's. Many of the walnuts are picked green to sell to 'Stonehouse' for pickling. A forced air dryer, originally used for drying apricots, is on the property and is now used to dry walnuts. A commercial peony operation is also able to be viewed.

12.00 noon Black Ridge Winery – presentation and barbecue lunch

Hosts: Sue Edwards and Verdun Burgess, Conroys Road, Alexandra

Sue and Verdun are the pioneer viticulturists in this area. When they began, every hole for vines and posts had to be blasted out of the rocks with dynamite. Sue and Verdun will present their story, invite you for a tasting of

their wines and this will be followed up with a Barbecue lunch prepared by Portuguese chef Nuno including:

Seafood platters, scallops wrapped in bacon and Moroccan chicken skewers matched with the wines from the winery

Cost per person \$20. Barbecue lunch. Drinks not included

Please register on the enclosed form

3.00pm Heritage walnut trees

Property of George and Daphne Kelliher, Springvale, Alexandra

George and Daphne answered the call when the request was put out via The Great Walnut Competition to find a really good New Zealand walnut. Along with several hundred entries sent in, George and Daphne forwarded two. The trees are now known as Central Otago 1 & 2 situated at Lincoln University in the NZWIG trial area. George will talk to us about his interest in the trees and how they have performed over the years.

4.30pm Monte Christo Berries, Springvale Road, Clyde

Host: Steve Gourley

This property grows raspberries, boysenberries and quinces. The berries are sold as bulk fresh product as well as in a range of berry products – yoghurt, ice cream and muffins in the shop. We will have a guided tour of the property with the opportunity to purchase coffee/tea and berry tastes at the conclusion of the tour.

The evening is free to make your own arrangements.

TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY – OAMARU REGION

10.30am Invernia Holdings, Commercial walnut orchard, Waitaki Valley Road

Property of Russell and Kathy Hurst

Walnut selections planted in the early 1980's. Approximately 300 trees on varying soil types. Sheep have been grazed in the orchard from time to time. Flood irrigation required during the growing season. This is the final visit of the Waitangi Holiday – homeward bound after this.

Registration is required for three events during the holiday.

Saturday 3 February	Walnut Dinner	\$40pp
Sunday 4 February	The Big picture	\$15pp
Monday 5 February	Black Ridge Barbecue	\$20pp

Total if you book for all of the events **\$75pp**

Please fill in the enclosed form and return before 10 January, 2007. Place are limited - first in first served.

The NZWIG Newsletter is edited by
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