

Beak Speak

A publication of **Flock Fighters USA**

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Wineries Unlimited Edition



Facts about MA

Since 1960, Methyl Anthranilate (MA), the active ingredient in Crop Guardian and Fog Force, has been known as an effective bird aversion chemical. Using this naturally occurring compound that is found in flowers and in grapes, Crop Guardian works as a repellent by causing an adverse taste (in the case of Crop Guardian) or a pain stimulus (in the case of Fog Force) which birds dislike.

Methyl Anthranilate is food! The FDA lists MA as a GRAS (Generally Regarded As Safe) compound. No edible compound in America has a better rating. MA is consumed and inhaled in a variety of human and animal foods and in many consumer products. Crop Guardian and Fog Force are formulated with FDA food-grade chemicals.

Methyl Anthranilate is benign. Because of its low toxicity, the EPA has declared it a 'reduced risk pesticide'. Consequently, there are no reentry or harvest restrictions in the work zone.

Grapes for Wine, not Birds

Vineyard owners and managers are well-aware that even a small flock of birds can cause astronomical damages to their crop. A flock of 500 blackbirds or other small fruit eaters will consume over 100 lbs. of fruit each day and will damage or pollute twice as much as they eat. Crop losses of 30% - 50% are common. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon to lose the entire harvest.

Fortunately, Flock Fighters USA has designed 2 workable solutions specifically for vineyards... Crop Guardian and Fog Force in the IA delivery system.

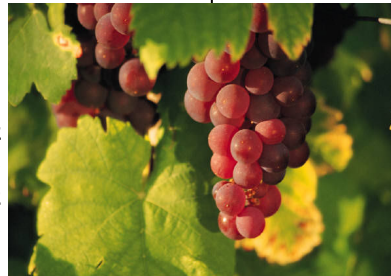
CROP GUARDIAN

Crop Guardian is a spray on bird repellent that is used to reduce damage to small fruit crops. It is approved to be used on all grapes, and protects against all types of birds.

As a micro-encapsulated product that is mixed with water and sprayed, it is applied to the fruit, not the foliage. Crop Guardian may be applied with ground equipment, like an agricultural sprayer, or orchard mister.

Crop Guardian allows you to protect your crop right up to the day of harvest with no damages to your fruit. Repeat treatments are usually not needed, however vineyards with heavy bird pressure should consider a second application. Crop Guardian the best of both worlds: efficient as well as effective.

Crop Guardian is available in 2.5 gallon and 5 gallon lots. Contact us for more information specific to your site.



FOG FORCE

Agriculture applications have taken a technological leap by combining Fog Force aerosols with In-fused Air (IA) Technology. This aerosol delivery method allows ongoing or

timed applications at low dosages and no residuals. For the vineyard, this means immediate control when birds arrive, or consistent fogging to deal with the pressure of all day "bird attacks".

Aerosols provide better coverage with no residuals. Aerosols deliver the product to the birds in flight— before they land on your vines. Fog Force can be applied, even during harvest, with no negative affects to your crop.

IA is fully compatible with mechanical harvesters. Once installed, it remains in the field permanently . This technology makes excessive labor costs a thing of past! Contact us and we'll show you the difference that IA systems will make to your bottom line.

The Fallacy of the Net

For the vineyard, the materials costs of netting are excessive and the netting must be replaced every few years. Labor needed to place netting over the vines and then remove before harvest escalates costs. Even when the nets are removed just in front of the harvester, some fields still lose 20% of the grapes in the 15-20 minute gap. What an unnecessary sacrifice! Contact Flock Fighters USA. We can present as workable alternative in bird control.

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FLOCK FIGHTERS

U S A

'the nation's leader in chemical bird aversion'

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Check us out at
www.flockfighters.com



The Scarecrow Mentality

Hungry birds have always been a problem for farmers. The very use of the term *scarecrow* tells of its origins: *scare* (away the) *crows*. The first scarecrows in recorded history (3000 years ago!) were made along the Nile River to protect wheat fields from flocks of quail. In Medieval Britain, scarecrows were live boys who were 9 years old or older. Known as 'bird scarers' or 'bird shooters', they patrolled wheat fields carrying bags of stones.

Native American tribes throughout the Americas also used children as "living scarecrows". Yet some resorted to manufactured ones. The Zunis used rags, pieces of dog and coyote skins, and the shoulder blades of animals hung from lines suspended from tall poles. One Navajo scarecrow in the 1930s was reported to be a teddy bear fastened to the top of a pole.

After World War II, farmers decided scarecrows didn't work, so they built contraptions like whirligigs that spun in the air like windmills to scare away the birds. A British company invented an *automatic crop protector* which was a metal box with 3 arms that was placed on top of a pole. The box contained caps that exploded every 45 minutes and made the metal arms flap up and down.

Some of these methods seem laughable to us now, but today people often rely on mechanical contraptions just as ineffective as a teddy bear on a pole. From visual-scare devices and sonic harassment mechanisms to barrier apparatus and even electric-shock systems, site managers are willing to try any gadget that promises success. Unfortunately, many gimmicks have been promoted, proven as failures, and discarded.

Nuisance bird populations and problems continue to grow and devastate grape crops. Costs continue to escalate. What is a vineyard owner or manager to do?

FLOCK FIGHTERS USA HAS THE SOLUTION!!

Bird control in the field is essential. Crop Guardian and Fog Force are effective and efficient methods that will provide the relief you need. Research and field trials have clearly shown that Methyl Anthranilate (MA), the effective ingredient in Fog Force and Crop Guardian, affects birds. It moves them out. Applying Fog Force or Crop Guardian directly and correctly makes the birds graphically exit the site with no known harmful effect to the birds or other organisms. Contact us for details about YOUR site.

