UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

CG118
doi.org/10.32473/edis-CG118-2026

2026–2027 Florida Citrus Production Guide: Postbloom Fruit Drop[1]

Natalia A. Peres and Megan M. Dewdney[2]

Application Timing Recommendations

- Observing persistent calyces at the end of the season should trigger scouting for postbloom fruit drop (PFD) symptoms on early bloom.
    - Groves with a history of PFD should be scouted twice weekly.
- If PFD is seen on early bloom, fungicide application recommendations should be followed for the major bloom.
    - Use the Citrus Advisory System (CAS) to help decide when to apply fungicides.
    - Low-lying areas with frequent fog may need an application when the risk is just under the moderate threshold because of the lengthy wetting periods.

Fungicide Mode of Action Availability

Ferbam is no longer registered as of 2025. With the loss of the Ferbam registration, there is no longer a non-strobilurin-containing fungicide with efficacy against PFD available. Copper is ineffective for PFD management, so there are no multisite fungicides to recommend. This means that limiting fungicide use to only when necessary is very important for PFD. Use CAS for determining if an application is needed. We have not seen strobilurin (FRAC MOA 11) resistance yet, but it is still a concern, particularly because it is not possible to rotate to another mode of action.

Recommended Chemical Controls

READ THE LABEL.

Rates for pesticides are given as the maximum amount required to treat mature citrus trees unless otherwise noted. To treat smaller trees with commercial application equipment — including handguns — mix the per-acre rate for mature trees in 125 gal of water. Calibrate and arrange nozzles to deliver thorough distribution, and treat as many acres as this volume of spray allows.

Table 1. Recommended chemical controls for postbloom fruit drop.

Pesticide	FRAC MOA[1]	Mature Trees Rate/Acre[2]
Amistar Top[3,4]	11 + 3	15.4 fl oz. Do not apply more than 61.5 fl oz (0.8 lb azoxystrobin and 0.5 lb difenoconazole)/acre/year. Do not apply more than 0.5 lb a.i./acre/season difenoconazole. Do not apply more than 1.5 lb a.i./acre/season azoxystrobin. Minimum retreatment interval is 7 days.
Gem 500 SC[3]	11	1.9–3.8 fl oz. Do not apply more than 15.2 fl oz/acre/season for all uses. Do not apply within 7 days of harvest.
Headline SC[3]	11	12–15 fl oz. Do not apply more than 54 fl oz (0.88 lb a.i.)/acre/season for all uses.
Priaxor Xemium[3,4]	11 + 7	9–11 fl oz. Do not apply more than 44 fl oz/acre/year. Do not apply more than 0.478 lb a.i./acre/season of fluxapyroxad. Do not apply more than 0.956 lb a.i./acre/season of pyraclostrobin as Priaxor Xemium. Minimum retreatment interval is 10 days.
Pristine[3,4]	11 + 7	16–18.5 oz. Do not apply more than 74 oz/acre/season for all uses. Do not apply more than 1.17 lb a.i./acre/season of boscalid. Do not apply more than 0.592 lb a.i./acre/season of pyraclostrobin as Pristine. Minimum retreatment interval is 10 days.
Quadris[3]	11	12.0–15.5 fl oz. Do not apply more than 90 fl oz (1.5 lb a.i.)/acre/season for all uses. Minimum retreatment interval is 7 days.

[1] Mode of action class for citrus pesticides according to the Fungicide Resistance Action Committee (FRAC) 2025. Refer to chapter 4, "Pesticide Resistance and Resistance Management," for more details.

[2] Lower rates can be used on smaller trees. Do not use less than the minimum label rate.

[3] Do not use more than 4 applications of strobilurin (FRAC MOA 11) fungicides/season. Do not make more than 2 sequential applications of strobilurin fungicides. Do not use in citrus propagation nurseries.

[4] Do not make more than 4 applications of Pristine, Amistar Top, or Priaxor/season. Do not make more than 2 sequential applications of Pristine, Amistar Top, or Priaxor before alternating to a non-strobilurin, non-SDHI (FRAC MOA 7), non-DMI (FRAC MOA 3) fungicide.

[1] This document is CG118, one of a series of the Department of Plant Pathology, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date August 2026. Revised annually. Visit the Ask IFAS website at https://ask.ifas.ufl.edu for the currently supported version of this publication.

[2] Natalia A. Peres, professor, strawberry pathology, Department of Plant Pathology, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center; Megan M. Dewdney, professor and Extension specialist, Department of Plant Pathology, UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred, FL; UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.