

END OF PICKING

Harvest 2009 is drawing to an end with Gold picking all but complete and Green fully scheduled to finish in week 23.

All packing is complete at Peninsula, Main Road has switched to Green and KCG is scheduled to pack Green before week's end.

Completing harvest in the first week of June is pleasing considering what the elements have thrown at us all.

< RAIN > < HAIL > < FROST >

It is a testament to our orchardists, personnel and systems that packouts are 850k trays ahead of schedule, and some 1.7m trays up on the same point last season.

Hail-damaged Green lines are now in the packhouse and being processed using special protocols to contain fruit loss. Packing of hailed Gold is virtually complete.

From Seeka's supply, five orchards suffered more than 60% hail damage with 200k trays written off by the assessors. Teams are assessing the orchards for salvage picks.

New container loading facility

Oakside has been operating a controlled temperature container loading facility this season.

The facility allows container trucks to dock direct to the coolstore doors so product can be loaded direct to the cooled containers.

Forklifts use the new two lane container loading facility to drive directly into containers to stow product. Prior to this product was forklifted from the coolstore to the truck loading bay where it was placed into the back of the container. The pallets were then manually positioned using pallet trolleys.

Key advantages of the new system are that product is never exposed to ambient temperatures, container turn around time has been halved, and a huge reduction in the number of times forklifts enter and exit the coolstore.

Product containerisation has grown significantly over recent seasons, reflecting the change in delivery logistics as shipping lines replace dedicated reefer vessels with the more flexible refrigerated container vessels.

PRODUCTION DATA TO MONDAY 25 MAY

	Hectares Picked	Trays Post Harvest		Average Size	
		Packed	CA / BS	Estimate	YTD
Green	1038	9.39m	1.02m	33.83	33.10
Organic	55	0.40m	N/A	35.00	34.95
Gold	258	2.98m	0.69m	30.92	31.38
Total	1351	12.77m	1.71m	7.02m Trays Shipped	

