



Horticulture

Industry Network

Vegetable IDO Update



09-Dec-2010

Dealing with Locust Swarms

All Victorian vegetable growers are at risk of losing crops to locust swarms this summer.

Vegetables such as carrots, cucurbits and tomatoes can be damaged as seedlings or immature plants. Some northwest growers reported losses last autumn.

Be aware of what is happening in areas where locusts are coming from, usually from the north.

Locust swarm maps are available at:

www.dpi.vic.gov.au/locust

The Victorian Department of Primary Industries does not recommend the treatment of flying locusts, as it is generally ineffective.

Crucifers with harder waxy leaves, such as broccoli may be less attractive to locusts but green heads may still be damaged.

Vegetable and herb growers must manage the risk of unacceptable chemical residues in their produce.

Unacceptable residues can lead to restriction or closure of export markets to all Australian vegetable and herb growers.

Exporters should check the latest information on maximum residue limits and import tolerances before using locust control chemicals.



Watch out for locust swarms

The DPI website contains information about the use of chemicals to treat locusts and appropriate withholding periods to help growers meet the maximum residue limits for the Australian domestic market.

www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards

Specific market advice can also be provided through [AusVeg](#), your chemical reseller, agronomist or chemical manufacturer.

Talk to your agronomist about insecticides suitable for your situation.

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Vegetable IDO Update is published by the
Vegetable Growers' Association of Victoria Inc.

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Jointly funded by the VGA and the Victorian Department of Primary Industries

Victorian Government – Future Farming Initiative – Better Services to Farmers



Know-how for Horticulture™



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