



TECHNICAL BULLETIN | BLUEBERRY

Parka[®] Cuticle Supplement

PROTECT FRUIT QUALITY AND MAXIMIZE MARKETABLE YIELDS WITH PARKA[®]

Cracking and softening are major physiological disorders in blueberries that can cause significant economic losses. Rain events and hot, dry conditions place stress on the fruit's natural cuticle, leading to excess water uptake, moisture loss and reduced fruit quality.

Parka[®] powered by Sure Seal™ biofilm technology strengthens the fruit's natural cuticle to protect against environmental stresses. Its residue-free formula forms a hydrophobic elastic lipid bilayer that repels surface moisture, reduces water loss and limits microfractures — helping maintain fruit firmness, extend shelf life and maximize marketable yields.

Mitigating Cracking and Softening

- Ripening blueberries are highly sensitive to environmental stress.
- Rain events increase internal fruit pressure, causing splitting.
- Natural cuticle microfractures increase splitting risk as berries expand.
- Heat, wind and dry conditions accelerate moisture loss and softening.

KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS:

- Reduces splitting during ripening by up to 40%.
- Increases top-shelf yields.
- Minimizes desiccation-caused moisture loss in hot or windy conditions.
- Improves fruit firmness.
- Extends shelf life.

Improving Fruit Quality

Parka helps blueberries maintain firmness and structural integrity through harvest. By reducing cracking and moisture loss during the critical ripening window, Parka promotes more premium, marketable fruit. Improved firmness supports better pack-out, reduced culls and longer shelf life.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:

- Leaves no residue while exempt from maximum residue levels.
- Tank-mix compatible.
- No pre-harvest or worker re-entry intervals.
- Excellent worker safety profile.



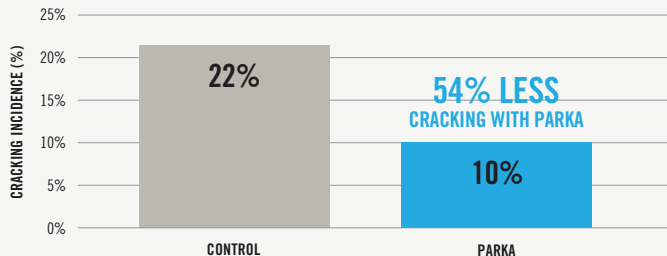
Key Issue: Cracking Reduction

Variety: Last Call, Elliott, Powderblue, Star, Emerald, Tifblue
Rate: 0.5 -1 gal/ac
Applications: 3-5
Location: Oregon, Georgia, Michigan, Chile
Source: Average of 8 replicated trials. 2017-2025

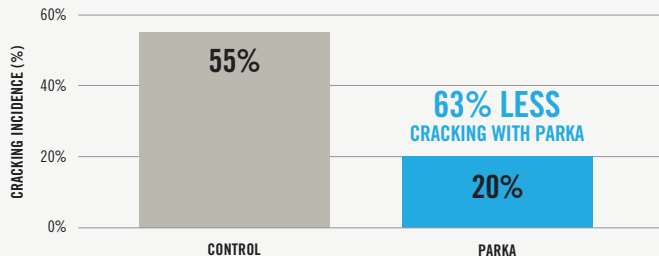
Variety: Elliott
Rate: 1% V/V
Applications: Starting at bloom, total of 4 applications
Location: Michigan, USA
Source: MSU, 2024



AVERAGE CRACKING ON BLUEBERRIES



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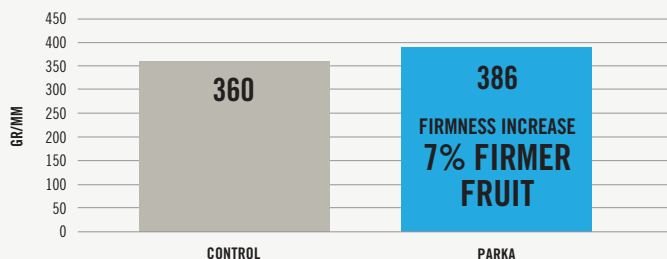


Key Issue: Improved Fruit Quality

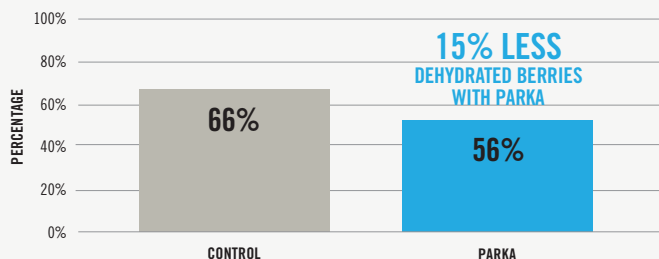
Variety: Powderblue
Rate: 0.5 gal/ac
Applications: Early green, +14 days, +14 days, +14 days, +7 days
Location: Georgia, USA
Source: UGA, 2021

Variety: Star
Rate: 0.5 gal/ac
Applications: 8mm berry, pre-color change, pre-harvest
Location: Chile
Source: Brota I+D, 2018

BERRY FIRMNESS ON BLUEBERRIES



BERRY DEHYDRATION ON BLUEBERRIES 10 DAYS POSTHARVEST



Crop Application Directions

CROP	RATE / AC	USE GUIDELINES/PROGRAM
Berry Crops (Blueberries, Caneberries, Cranberries, Strawberries)	0.5-1 gal. or 1% V/V (4,75 –9,5 L)	Apply when fruit is 5-7 mm in size. Reapply every 7-14 days

Parka is exempt from tolerance. Applications per season not limited.

Applications and Use

Application: For best results, complete coverage on the crop is required. Avoid excessive runoff. Do not apply when temperatures are above 90°F, if temperatures are expected to exceed this threshold, evenings applications are recommended.

Compatibility: Parka is compatible with most crop protection products, provided application coincides with the conditions on each label. Do not tank mix or overlap Parka applications within 5 days of CAPTAN®. If using micronized or dusting sulfur, do not apply Parka within 3 days of a sulfur application. If using Lime Sulfur wait 7 days before applying Parka. Prior to tank mixing with any Emulsifiable Concentrate (EC) or oil based materials, conduct a jar test to determine compatibility. Do not tank mix with surfactants, stickers or pinolene based materials. Parka should be the last product added to the tank. For best results, finished spray solution pH should be between 5 and 7.