

### ■ COOLING **APPLE WATER TREATMENT**

Hogue Ranches, a 1,200-acre farm near Prosser in Washington's Yakima Valley, had a problem. When it cooled the farm's apple orchard with overhead spraying of groundwater, calcium deposits from the water formed on the apples and would not clean off in the packing line.

"That meant that 10 to 15 percent of our apple harvest could not be sold to the higher-profit fresh market," said Ron Dragoo, manager of the family-owned farm, affiliated with the Hogue Cellars winery. "Instead, those apples had to be sold as culls, for juice. We weren't getting the full value of those apples, simply because we couldn't remove the naturally occurring calcium deposits."

The solution: Dragoo and Hogue Ranches applied the

Agri-Guard water treatment formulation from CH<sub>2</sub>O International, Olympia, Wash., to the water supply. With the recently patented Agri-Guard, calcium easily cleans off the apples, Dragoo said, "and apples that might otherwise be culls are sold as fresh apples. That directly leads to greater profits."

Agri-Guard alters the way minerals deposit from water; any resulting mineral deposit from overhead spraying is soft, relatively non-adhering and easily removed. Dosage rates can be as little as one-half (.5) parts per million.

For more information, contact Doug Vliet, CH<sub>2</sub>O's customer service director, at (800) 562-6184 or (360) 943-6063.

# THE GROWER

SERVING THE NEEDS OF COMMERCIAL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS ■ VOL. 28, NO. 12 DECEMBER 1995

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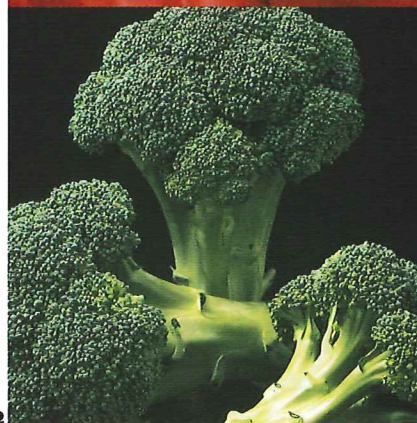
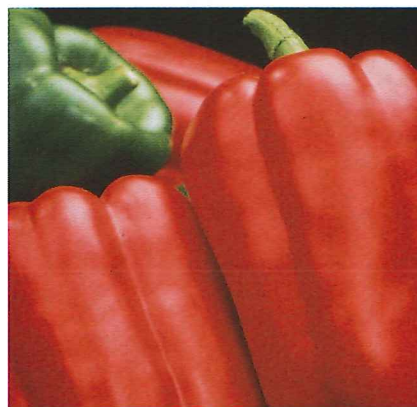
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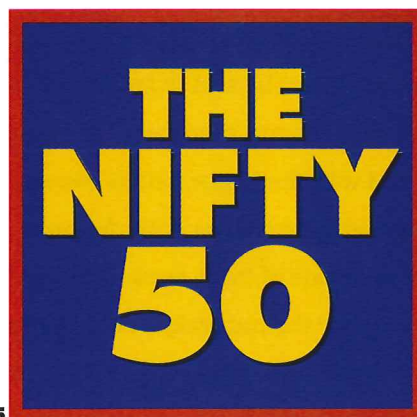
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