

## Protecting the Flowering of the Nodules and Nuclei, Necessary to Protect Beehives

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The blossoming season of the almond tree, as well as the other acorns, as well as the kernels such as peduncans, cranberries, cherries and plums, has already begun. In this period, the “beginning” of the trees is considered as the basis for the final production, since the flowering requires suitable conditions for soil destruction - fertilization, as well as the necessary applications of plant protection preparations, especially botanicals.

The rainy weather throughout flowering increases fungal insults, especially in endemic areas or disease. In particular, both in the fore-quarters and in the kernel, at the flowering stage, we apply a spraying program with two to three fungicidal applications.

### Almonds

As an example, in particular, in the cultivation of almonds, in flowering, approved fungicidal formulations, such as protective fungicide (fungicides with Captan, Iprodione or Prochloraz), or fungicides with protective and therapeutic action (usually, are mixtures of two active substances, e.g., Boscalid with Pyraclostrobin). The above fungicides can be applied at the beginning of flowering (white or pink bud), 50% -70% of flowering, full flowering, and dropping of petals. The application of fungicides to the fall of the petals is considered essential where rainy weather prevails. The above mentioned sprays, except for the monolith, can control the evolution or manifestation of other diseases, such as luminescence and botrytis.

### Basic monitoring of temperatures

Warm weather during flowering will speed up the flowering time, which means that the spraying program may need to be modified. Colder or cooler and rainy weather may have blooming adverse effects. In areas with temperatures below 0°C, areas where late spring frosts, blossoms, and even fruitlets may be destroyed. At this point, we note that the flowers that have fertilized and formed the carp (start of the fruit) are more sensitive to frost. Especially for spring frosts, it is a common practice to burn balls with straw or old car tires in the orchard to protect the fruit. In addition to this classical method, there are formulations that enhance plant-resistance to frosts.

### Ways of protecting bees

Do not forget the bees! Bees are usually transported with their hives to the orchard, in order to achieve better pollination of the flowers, which is a prerequisite for most varieties of berries and thistles. Even autogenously varieties of almond or cherry seem to benefit and have better fertilization. In order to protect bees, sprays with insecticidal preparations should be avoided throughout their flight.

Where it is necessary to apply (insecticides), these formulations should be applied in the afternoon hours.

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