Case Study - Orchard - Scale on Apples

Case study updated on September 27, 2013


Customer: The grower has been growing, packing, and shipping premium tree fruit products since the 1920’s, with orchard locations throughout the prime growing regions of Eastern Washington.

Application: Scale accumulation on apples.

Device: Custom HydroFLOW 12” Water Conditioner.

Installation date: July 17, 2013

Evaluation date: September 17, 2013
Background:
The Orchard in the Yakima Valley, Washington, incorporates overhead sprayers for temperature control and protection from sun damage.

Problem area:
Even though acid is added to the sprayed water, apples still gather hard scale stains. The scale staining reduces the grade of the apples. In an average growing season, only 50% of the apples receive the highest grade rating.
Proposed solution:
Install a Custom HydroFLOW 12” I Range on the pipe which supplies water to the Orchard.

Results:
Scale deposits accumulate as fine powder which is very easy to remove. Over 90% of the apples are expected to receive the highest grade rating once processed. Note: The apples were picked at the end of 2013, placed in cold storage and are expected to be processed, packed and shipped during the first quarter of 2014.
Additional Observations:

Two weeks after the installation of the HydroFLOW water conditioner, the pond’s water became much clearer and the floating algae blooms reduced significantly. In addition, snails that used to clog the filters are no longer present.

Quote from customer:

Orchard Manager: “The pond has never been this clear and the white powder washes right off the apples. The benefits of HydroFLOW should have a very positive impact on our profits this season. Initial processing results are the best I’ve ever seen.”

Referral Information:

The owner of the orchard expressed willingness to speak about HydroFLOW’s impact on his orchard. Please contact Rudy Nicacio, Manager of MBI Water Solutions, in order to receive the owner’s contact information.

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