



A U S T R A L I A N
G R E E N & G O L D

M A N A G E R S F O R

BROOKLYN PARK ORGANIC OLIVE GROVES

AUSTRALIAN GREEN & GOLD LIMITED

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

AUSTRALIAN OLIVES

PROJECT 4

PROJECT 5

PROJECT 6

1 JULY 2008 – 30 JUNE 2009

1 JULY 2008 – 31 DECEMBER 2008

Scheduled activities by month

July 2008

- Tree count and grove assessment
- Desucker & prune
- Bug & disease check

August 2008

- Slash
- Bug & disease check
- Resurrect damaged groves

September 2008

- Slash
- Bug & disease check
- Desucker & prune
- Spray for weeds
- Spray foliar fertiliser

October 2008

- Slash
- Bug & disease check
- Spray for weeds
- Spray for pests
- Desucker & prune
- Water & fertilise
- Commence removal of stakes

November 2008

- Slash (dependant on rainfall)
- Spray for scale (if necessary)
- Bug & disease check
- Desucker & prune
- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Skirt trees

December 2008

- Spray for weeds (if necessary)
- Desucker & prune
- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Skirt trees
- Bug & disease check

The above activities to be carried out should be read in conjunction with the Operational Budget.

1 JANUARY 2009 – 30 JUNE 2009

Scheduled activities by month

January 2009

- Slash
- Spray for weeds
- Bug & disease check
- Spray for pests (if necessary)
- Desucker & prune
- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Flush irrigation lines
- Skirt trees

February 2009

- Spray for weeds
- Bug & disease check
- Spray foliar fertiliser (if necessary after leaf analysis)
- Spray for pests (if necessary)
- Copper spray (if necessary)
- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Continue with removal of stakes
- Skirt trees
- Preparation for harvest

March 2009

- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Bug & disease check
- Copper spray (if necessary)
- Spray fruit loosener
- Harvest
- Process
- Storage of oil

April 2009

- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Bug & disease check
- Copper spray (if necessary)
- Spray fruit loosener
- Harvest
- Process
- Storage of oil

1 JANUARY 2009 – 30 JUNE 2009 (continued)

Scheduled activities by month (continued)

May 2009

- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)
- Bug & disease check
- Copper spray (if necessary)
- Spray fruit loosener
- Harvest
- Process
- Storage of oil

June 2009

- Harvest cleanup
- Slash
- Bug & disease check
- Water & fertilise (dependant on water availability)

The above activities to be carried out should be read in conjunction with the Operational Budget.

Management activity descriptions

Bug check & disease monitoring

Bug & disease checks are carried out routinely by an experienced person. A grove of 500 hectares would require one person on a fulltime basis to carry this out effectively. Under advice from the bug checker, a tactical and strategic program will be initiated for maximum effect and cost control.

Desucker & prune

Olive trees are basitonic, that is under stressful situations of pruning, disease and harvest, they will shoot or sucker from the bottom of the tree. These suckers need to be removed annually to prevent the trees growing into an unharvestable and unmanageable tree. Desuckering and pruning is carried out by contractors on a monthly basis at a cost of approximately \$1.50 per tree per year.

Flush irrigation lines

Irrigation lines are required to be flushed once a year with a mixture of chlorine and water to remove any contaminants. This is normally carried out in conjunction with irrigation.

Foliar spraying

Foliar spraying involves the spraying of trees with trace elements and fertiliser, generally pre-flowering to increase the flowering and potential fruit set and yield. This activity is generally carried out once per year in September, or if indicated, pending leaf analysis, which is performed in January of each year.

Skirting

Tree skirting involves the removal of the lower hanging branches to facilitate the movement of the picking machines at harvest time. It also enables the effective spraying for weeds in the immediate proximity of the tree. Frequency of skirting is once per year, post fruit set.

Slash

Slashing involves the control of weeds between the olive tree beds. This is an area not sprayed with herbicides in order to maintain vegetation for soil structure and erosion control. Slashing also involves the maintenance of open areas for fire mitigation and the aesthetic appearance of the grove. The frequency of slashing depends on rain events, possibly four (4) times per year.

Management activity descriptions (continued)

Spray (Weeds)

The spraying of weeds involves the spraying of the tree bed with a one metre strip of herbicide either side of the tree. This controls weed growth in the immediate proximity of the trees, hence conserving moisture for tree production and effective fertilisation and tree management. The frequency of spraying is dependent upon rain events, possibly four (4) to six (6) times per year.

Spray (Pests)

The two main pests affecting olive trees are lace bug and scale. The control of these pests involves the spraying of the trees with a residual pesticide. The frequency of spraying varies with the season – wet, dry, humid etc. Lace bug requires two (2) to three (3) sprays per year and scale requires two (2) sprays per year. The sprays will be combined where possible.

Spray (Disease)

To mitigate against viral diseases such as Peacock Spot and others diseases due to harvest damage a copper spray will be used. The frequency of spraying will be approximately two (2) times per year, once during fruit set if necessary and once post harvest of each year.

Spray (Fruit looseners)

Trees will be sprayed with a fruit loosener pre-harvest to minimise harvest costs and maximise tree yield. This is done four (4) days pre-harvest and is carried out once per year.

Stake removal

Stakes should be removed from trees at Year 2/3 to facilitate tree maintenance and harvest. Generally wooden stakes are used and are easily removed at an approximate cost of \$0.80 per tree. Previous management have not removed stakes. In Project 4, they have used mainly wooden stakes, however in Projects 5 and 6, ½ inch steel stakes have been used, which have rusted into the ground and are very difficult to remove. These stakes will need to be cut off at ground level with a steel cutter at an approximate cost of \$1.50 per tree.

Water & fertilise

The bulk of fertiliser is supplied to the trees via fertigation. As there is very little water available at this stage, fertigation will be limited to tactical events for example, fruit set and oil accumulation, when water is available. It is not intended at this stage, to use broadacre application of solid fertilisers e.g. superphosphate, gypsum or lime. Utilisation of the irrigation water will depend upon the settling of the Water & Services Agreement and the availability of water.

Preferred Subcontractors:

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Red Rock Transport
PO Box 199
Inglewood Qld 4387
Ph: 07 4652 1899

B & SP Trevisiol
68 George Street
Inglewood Qld 4387
Ph: 07 4652 1389

N.A & D Sutton
PO Box 12
Inglewood Qld 4387
Ph: 07 4652 4261

Australian Green and Gold Olive
Processors Limited
PO Box 430
Paddington Qld 4064
Ph: 07 3367 3667

Thunderbolts Rock Project
"Glen Prairie"
Moree NSW 2400
Ph: 02 6752 3588

Preferred Suppliers:

McDougall's Merchandise & Hardware
86 Albert Street
Inglewood Qld 4387
Ph: 07 4652 1318

Reliance Petroleum
Lord Street
Brookstead Qld 4364
Ph: 1300 130 899

Peco Trading Pty Ltd
PO Box 143
Goondiwindi Qld 4390
Ph: 4671 2388

Chep Australia Pty Ltd
PO Box 617
North Ryde NSW 1670
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