

## MIDAS® SOIL FUMIGANT UPDATE-COMMERCIAL USE AND RESULTS

Bernard Olsen\*, Arysta LifeScience, Mike Allan, Arysta LifeScience and Marty Wiglesworth, Arysta LifeScience

MIDAS® Soil Fumigant was registered by the US EPA in October 2007. The submission to US EPA in 2002 culminated with registration approval for the pre-plant uses of MIDAS® on the following crops:

- Strawberries
- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Field grown ornamentals, including turf
- Tree fruit, nuts and vines
- Nurseries (strawberry, tree and vine)
- Conifer tree nurseries

MIDAS® is now approved for use in 46 states (excluding CA, WA, NY and MA). Patented by the University of CA Regents and licensed to Arysta LifeScience, LLC., for worldwide commercialization, the US registration of MIDAS® represents the first step towards providing a new fumigant offering to growers faced with decreasing availability of methyl bromide. There are several novel requirements and practices which have been implemented during the registration and commercial phase-in with uses for MIDAS®. Requirements such as the MIDAS® Qualified Applicator Training Program, implementation of national buffer zones utilizing specific buffer zone credits, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). On going practices include the use of a selection of highly retentive films (VIF, SIF, TIF, etc.) as an option to reduce rates and buffer zones, updating and modifying commercial application equipment for accurate MIDAS® applications, as well as, the newly patented Arysta application technology with *Symmetry*™.

Commercial applications are underway in key growing regions of the US, including Florida, Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Northeast, with positive results. MIDAS® technical feasibility in fields with a variety of pest pressure, as well as various soil and moisture conditions has now been tested on more than 3,000 acres. A wide variety of labeled crops have been planted into soil treated with MIDAS®. Commercial double cropping conditions utilized in the SE have been evaluated following MIDAS® applications and on select farms, multi-year results are available from growers that participated in the 2006-2007 Experimental Use Permit program.

Results of commercial applications indicate that economic returns for crops planted into soil treated with MIDAS® are cost effective based on rates and cost

per acre. Data analysis of results including economic, yield and efficacy will be presented to give an overview of commercial results of MIDAS® under field conditions.