

2016 California Citrus Crop

Picture is of a 2000 acre citrus orchard that had been experiencing real problems for more than a decade due to extreme drought coupled with hard, depleted and very compacted soil.



Background,
Installed 4 Crystal Blue Water Structuring devices on 70% of the ranch last April.

Due to the unexpected amounts of rain, first harvest was excellent meaning that the yield turned out to be 30% above normal.

Due to a recent typical lack of rain, calculations showed the current yield should be down 35% to 45% from the same time last year. After finishing our preharvest counts last week, calculations show we are only down roughly 10% from last year's record crop.

This is very significant as virtually all of the other farms in the area (who are not yet using the Crystal Blue technology) are expecting their crop yields to be substantially lower, somewhere around a 40% loss.

If we had access to more water, we believe that we may have met or even been able to exceed last year's bounty.

The ranch is in the hills. No flat ground at all, the ground is very hard so water penetration is an issue.

Previous to installing the Crystal Blue Water Structuring units, watering had to be done once every 3 hours with a great deal of resulting water loss running off down the hill.

Since installing the Crystal Blue units, we have been able to extend the watering to once every 18 hours with zero water run off which has meant a saving of 30% in water usage.

Our drip emitters have no more scale, with a huge saving of money on equipment maintenance.

Previously we used use copper and sulfuric acid to help with water penetration, which has obviously harmed the soil. Now, we use nothing at all because the water penetrates straight down into the ground. The soil is healthier and much more porous.

Pesticides have been cut by 40%!

Quality of the fruit looks better and tastes better. We don't do brix testing on this ranch. Nor do we gather scientific data because most of the crop goes straight into juicing. The farmers are all third and fourth generation farmers who inherently know what their crops need by the way the crops are looking.

Rick Fry, California Citrus Farm