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ALL WEATHER SLUG AND SNAIL BAIT
Metarex Inov contains 40 g/kg metaldehyde



Yarra Valley Farm gets Better Results with Metarex Inov



Anthony and Tony Molluso of T&G Farms

Testimonial from Anthony and Tony Molluso, T&G Farms, Yarra Valley, VIC

T & G Farms is a 2nd generation family business in the heart of the Yarra Valley. Starting out in the late 1970s, the farm has grown in size over the years to approximately 110 acres today. For the past 12 years, the farm's main focus has been strawberry production.

Anthony and Tony Molluso, of T & G Farms, recently trialed Metarex Inov[®] in their production system.

“We had the opportunity to try a new product from AgNova, Metarex Inov, to combat the growing issue of slug damage, which was seen more so this season”.

Previously, the Mollusos had used another molluscicide, but found Metarex Inov gave better results.

“We noticed that the baits themselves did not wash away as easily in comparison to our previous product and that the effectiveness of the bait was very good.

We could also see in the trial that there were more dead slugs in the rows and that where the Metarex Inov was used, the baits were being consumed faster than our previous product, further highlighting the effectiveness of the attractant to kill the slugs”.

The Mollusos found the switch to Metarex Inov easy, as no change was needed to their current application system and they could see the performance of Metarex Inov was superior.

“Metarex Inov proved in the trials to be a better choice as it was more efficient and did what it claimed to do”.

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Metarex Inov gives a Quick Effective Kill

**Testimonial from Glenn Masterton,
Horticultural Agronomist,
Elders, Shepparton, VIC**

Smaller baits are IPM-friendly

“Our growers have used Metarex Inov in kiwis, apples and wine grapes. The low application rate has had fantastic results. There is less active going out per hectare as such which helps with IPM, soil biology and worm activity. But it still has good attractant and good killing ability. The growers are very happy with it.”

“Over 100 dead snails per square metre”

“Metarex Inov gives a quick effective kill. Growers are seeing dead snails in the field. The mortality rate is very high. In pome fruit crops this year we were seeing over 100 dead snails per square metre.”

Snails prefer Metarex Inov over tender green shoots

“The attractant is powerful. One grower said he had snails on the actual bag even before he got it out of the shed!”

“In the tree crops, once the snails get up into the trees, they are hard to target. They chew the new shoots. Young trees can get very badly damaged and defoliated.

The beauty with Metarex Inov is that, due to the strong attractant, snails ingest the bait and we’re getting very high mortality rates.

If snails are still in the vines or fruit trees at harvest time, they can potentially contaminate a whole bin or trailer load of harvested product. Metarex Inov has helped our growers get cleaner pest-free harvested crops.”

Holds up well under irrigation and rainfall

“In vines and tree crops we’ve got irrigation. When we don’t have rain, we irrigate weekly.

“So we are wetting these baits and they are drying and rewetting. This product’s ability to withstand this is a huge benefit.”



I’d say the pellets last around 2-3 weeks under irrigation. So the attractant and the bait keep working over a longer period.”

Easy to use

“It’s easy and quick to spread. We spread it through the whole floor bed, both the rows and the inter-rows. It worked very well. It goes on at 5 kg per hectare. The 10 kg bag is easy to store and handle on farm and meets OHS standards.”

“The palatability and the attractiveness work together. You get a very high kill rate.”

Plan ahead and lighten the pest load

“Next year we will look at an autumn application so we can break the snail’s life cycle. We want to stop them laying eggs. That way we won’t have to manage such a high density of snails come spring. We’ll need to get some good monitoring happening too.”

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Rain-Resistant Pellets give Long-Lasting Protection

Testimonial from Steve Fulton, Agronomist and Branch Manager at Nutrien, Mount Gambier, VIC & SA

Rain-resistant pellets give long-lasting protection

"The beauty of Metarex Inov is it's water-repellent. That's important with our rainfall down here and especially with areas under irrigation.

It really lasts. With the cheaper grain-based baits, if you get rain overnight, it's gone the next morning. It can even disappear under heavy dew."

More even pasture establishment

"In spring the farmers renovate their pastures. They get contractors to sow a blend of seeds and the farmers want to know their money is well-spent and the new pastures have a good survival rate.

That's where Metarex Inov comes in. Many graziers use it as crop insurance. The contractors put the bait out in a spreader attached to the back of the seeder. So it all happens at the same time. That way we are getting a snail kill before the seedlings emerge and the paddocks come up evenly.

The timing of the baiting is critical. If you wait until the plants are up out of the ground, sometimes it's too late.

The damage is done. Those patches stay bare until next year and the ground becomes prone to weeds and erosion."

One application saves your pasture and your pocket

"If a farmer is comparing different baits, I tell them, 'if you want to bait 3 times put the cheaper stuff out. If you want to bait once use the Metarex Inov.'

If you've got time to bait your crop 3 times to get the same length of control, use the cheaper stuff. With Metarex Inov you only need the one application. With the cheaper baits, you'll need a guy to spread it 3-4 times. That's where the costs shoot up."

Snails love it

"The new attractant is more appealing to the slugs and snails. We're seeing dead snails in the field. You get an immediate kill.

Plus, if the snail pressure is not high, some baits are eaten and the remainder hang around. That gives some extra protection for a few weeks. If you used grain-based baits, they dissolve in 2 to 3 days."

"If a farmer is comparing different baits, I tell them, 'if you want to bait 3 times put the cheaper stuff out. If you want to bait once use the Metarex Inov.'"



UNTREATED PLOT - Italian Snails



TREATED PLOT - Dead Italian Snails 9 days after application

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The Strong Attractant means Slugs and Snails Consume a Lethal Dose More Quickly

**Testimonial from Brian Dwyer,
Owner and Manager of
Farmer and the Scientist Winery,
Heathcote Wine Region, VIC**

Brian and his wife Jess grow Shiraz grapes on their 8 hectare property. Here they own and operate their own award-winning boutique winery Farmer and the Scientist. Brian has been growing wine grapes in the Heathcote wine region for 20 years.

An excellent kill rate and a cleaner crop

"We often get snails up in the vines. They collect around the trunk and along the cordon wire. If we harvest by machine, these snails could end up in the fruit bin; it's not a good look.

This season we've had a kill of around 90% with Metarex Inov. We're not seeing the snails gluing themselves to the vines. We are seeing loads of snail bodies everywhere. It would have been a high density infestation if we hadn't used the Metarex Inov. With it, we have a much cleaner harvest. I'm happy with that."

Break the snails' life cycle with autumn application

"The snails are a recurring problem. The population builds up and we have a very bad year every few years. This year we've had a particularly high density of snails. I went for the new bait and we've seen really good results.

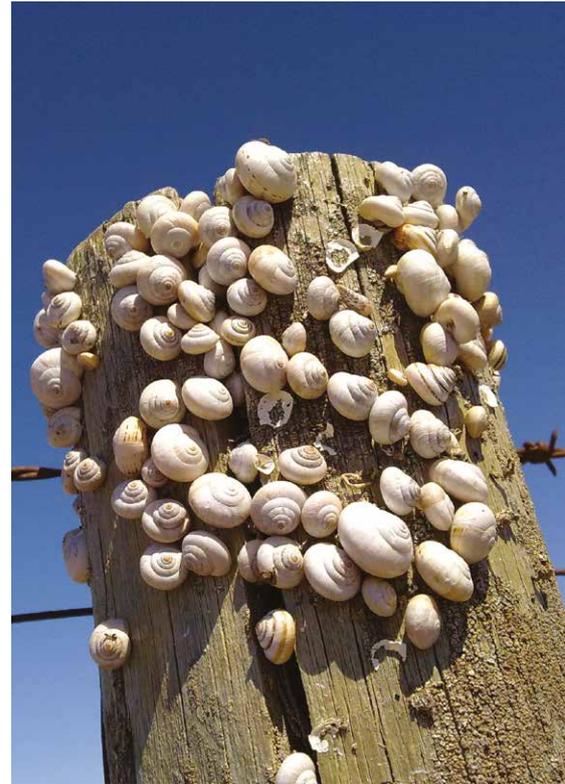
I plan to spread Metarex Inov in the autumn. That's when the snails are out breeding. Even though you may have a smaller kill, with not as many snails active, it will have a large impact for the next season going forward."

Easy to apply

"We broadcast the bait through a small bait spreader. We treated the whole vineyard floor. The baits are little so there's less handling. Each bait is hard and solid. I found they hold their shape in the spreader and there are no dust issues. They throw a long way and you get a nice even coverage."

Rain hardy

"We have had up to 100 mm of rain on the bait over a 2 or 3 week period. The Metarex Inov held up nicely. It didn't break down and stayed available for quite some time.



If another grower is thinking about trying Metarex Inov, I'd say 'Wait for a rain, and then put this product out while the snails are active. You can't go wrong.'"

We'll stick with Metarex Inov

"I would absolutely use this product again. We had a really good result with just one application."

"The new attractant is very effective and the lower application rate works well.

We're always looking for ways to improve what we do. That's why we tried Metarex Inov. We're known for having good consistent crops. We supply grapes to other vineyards and we produce our own popular award-winning Shiraz. Keeping on top of the snail problem is one aspect of delivering quality fruit and creating fine wine."

Why wouldn't ya?

"The cost of application per hectare was very similar to the old Metarex[®] because your rates are a lot lower. Although it is more expensive per kilo, per hectare it's about the same cost. If it's going to cost the same and do a better job, why wouldn't ya?"

Highly effective attractant

"A snail's natural habit is to go upwards and cluster together. But we're not seeing this so much."

"The new attractant is highly effective. We've definitely had a high kill rate."

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Metarex Inov Works Fast and Works Well - "A product worth using!"

Testimonial from James Clements,
Tasmanian Farm Manager, Wandin Valley
Farms, TAS

"You could actually feel the crunch of dead snails under your feet."

"I manage a 64 hectare cherry orchard in Southern Tasmania. This season we had a significant number of snails at the bottom of the trees. Left unchecked, snails chew into the skin of the cherries and the fruit is unsaleable.

We used Metarex Inov for the first time. Within 48 hours we had a noticeable kill. In a bad block, you could actually feel the crunch of dead snails under your feet."

"It was one of the more spectacular kills I have seen."

A spectacular kill

"The pest pressure this year was significant due to a wet spring so we applied Metarex Inov at the higher rate of 5 kg per ha across the cherry orchards and in the buffer zones.

We got a kill rate in the high 90s. It was one of the more spectacular kills I have seen."

One application protected our fruit for the whole season

"In the 2020-21 season we had a very wet October so the snail pressure was high. When we saw snail activity, we applied Metarex Inov. One application was enough to give us effective coverage through to harvest."



"We saw results quickly. Plus the baits that weren't eaten, remained whole and active on the ground for a long time."



To other growers I'd say...

"This is a product worth using. I found it had a very good kill rate. We saw results quickly. Plus the baits that weren't eaten, remained whole and active on the ground for a long time."

"Metarex Inov held up better after rain than other products I've used."

"The baits are totally uniform. They are hard and not dusty to handle. They spread evenly and give a solid coverage across the orchard floor.

Metarex Inov held up better after rain than other products I've used. The baits kept their shape for up to 2 weeks in wet weather."



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Metarex Inov is Highly Palatable - "We Use it because it Works!"

Testimonial from Rose Beyer,
Agronomist, Hoogies CRT, Yarra Glen, VIC

We only keep ONE snail bait!

"Metarex Inov is the only snail bait we keep on the shelf. It's easy to use, easy to sell and it works. We'll get in other baits if customers request it. We just run with the one because we are totally confident in Metarex Inov.

It has high bait numbers and good rain-fastness. It's very palatable and attractive to the snails. If the bait isn't palatable, nothing else matters. That's the number one factor. Number two is the rain-hardiness."

*"The attractant worked very well.
The snails were drawn to it."*

Growers say Metarex Inov outperforms the rest

"This year the mild and wet weather has led to higher numbers of snails in the Yarra Valley. It was a huge concern for vine growers. The snails were attacking newly planted vines and established vines too. Our growers want to eradicate the snails before they get into the canopy. They have been very keen to get their hands on snail pellets this year.

We switched from selling Metarex to Metarex Inov in October 2020. The change was seamless. Our growers say the new product is very effective in terms of killing snails.

It lasted a long time even though we had some rain. The attractant worked very well. The snails were drawn to it. They would definitely use it again.

Compared to other products the growers felt Metarex Inov was the best one.

They liked the lower baiting rates. Some growers actually apply the bait manually to each vine and see good results.



*"It's very palatable and attractive to the snails.
If the bait isn't palatable, nothing else matters."*



Other growers used the bait like insurance. They weren't seeing much snail activity but they put pellets around the young vines. Afterwards they found loads of dead snails on the ground.

As a rural supplier it makes my job so much easier to have reliable effective products to recommend to my customers. They want something that works, that's easy to use and that's available. Metarex Inov meets all these criteria. It works across vines and establishing pasture. It's also IPM friendly. It will only kill what it's targeted to kill."

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“Even spread saves us time and money.”

**Testimonial from Wayne Johnstone,
Operations Manager, Dunkeld Pastoral, VIC**

“In southwest Victoria we’ve been getting heavy spring rains. When we come to sowing out the pastures in the autumn, we are seeing a high slug burden.

We have used other products but we didn’t get an even spread so we had to use them at higher rates. Sometimes we had to go back and rebroadcast the pellets before too much damage was done.

With the Metarex Inov we get an even spread. The application rate is less so that’s a savings. Also we only had to use it once per season.”

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Dust-free baits are better for everyone

“I didn’t like the dust that came off the other products. It was bad for our staff and contractors. Metarex Inov meets our OH & S standards. It’s cleaner all round.”

Simple to apply to pastures

“The contractor applies the Metarex Inov at sowing. The baits hit the deflector plates on his drill bar and then get broadcast out over the paddock. We were unable to use other slug bait products through his drill to do this as they crumbled and blocked the box shoot. With the Metarex Inov, the two jobs were done at once which is a savings to us and less compaction on the soil!”

The information provided herein may include extracts from the product label and does not constitute the complete directions for use. READ THE PRODUCT LABEL THOROUGHLY BEFORE OPENING OR USING METAREX INOV

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Saving brassicas from slug infestation

“Last spring we planted out 400-odd hectares of fodder brassicas for the sheep. In the past we’ve lost up to 50% of this crop. This time we used Metarex Inov. We had a very effective kill and a heavy crop of brassicas.”

Hit slugs with a double whammy

“Because Metarex Inov is an all-weather product it is still active when the second wave of juvenile slugs comes through. In wet conditions the Metarex Inov can last for around 3 weeks.”

“Metarex Inov is a vital part of our sowing program.”

Boosting carrying capacity

“By applying Metarex Inov when we sow new pastures and using fertiliser during the growth period, we have increased our pasture carrying capacity from 4-5 DSE to 18-20 DSE.”

Will you stick with Metarex Inov?

“Definitely. Where we think there’s going to be a slug burden, we’ll use it. It is a vital part of our sowing program. Every time we sow new pastures, we’ll budget for the Metarex Inov.”

The 3 main reasons I’d recommend Metarex Inov to my neighbours ...

“First, I don’t like the dust from other products. Metarex Inov is much cleaner to use. It’s better for the health of our team and our contractors.

Second, the baits throw evenly across the paddock. There’s no gaps. No need to go back and redo the job.

And third, the longevity of the product when it’s on the ground. I’ve seen it last up to 3 weeks in wet conditions.”

“We’re better off using Metarex Inov. It spreads evenly every time.”

It’s the maths

“If we need to get a contractor back in to reapply slug pellets across say 700 hectares that can be around \$6,000 - \$7,000 just in labour. Then you add in the cost of more pellets. We’re better off using Metarex Inov. It spreads evenly every time.”