

## **Case Study: Preventing deer damage on newly planted fruit trees.**

**Name: Randy Hill, Hill Orchard**

**Location: Sister Bay, Wisconsin**

Situation: Expanding orchard experiencing high mortality rate on newly planted fruit trees due to high deer browse pressure. Fine-tuned Plantskydd Deer Repellent applications over 3 years of use.

“What I learned is that when the leaves are opening there’s no point in trying to get long-term protection from a single spray application. I was also spraying using an air blast sprayer for speed and convenience but the Plantskydd rep told me I was using too much water as I might if I was spraying a fungicide. He advised me to make a more concentrated solution but spray each tree from a wand I rigged to my tank. So I mixed 1 x 2.2lb package in 7.5 gallons of water and sprayed right at leaf out and again when the leaves started opening. I started spraying May 29 and sprayed again one week later on June 4. The third application was made 21 days later on June 25. I witnessed some feeding resume just before the third application so 3 weeks was a bit too late. So you need to spray more often when the leaves are soft and flushing out but I think that once the leaves are open and start hardening, the product lasts a lot longer.

See images I provided.”

“As of the beginning of September I have been seeing a lot of deer in the orchard and I have to say I’m impressed. I’m seeing the deer eat mature trees along fence rows but they’re leaving the young treated trees alone. I mean, in hindsight, I should’ve sprayed a fourth time because I did see some damage lately. Nothing serious though, it’s ‘acceptable’ damage if there’s such a thing. I mean, compared to past damage, at least I know the tree will make it. The one thing I can say, now that I’m figuring out how to use the stuff, is that it’s very economical to spray each tree individually. I used 1/3 the product we thought we’d need on these new trees.”

Randy Hill  
Hill Orchard



**1st application May 29, 2014.**



**2nd application June 4, 2014.**



**3rd application June 16, 2014.**