



Pear Chemical Thinning

Like apple, chemical thinning in pear is intended to reduce the current season's crop load in pursuit of three fundamental goals: 1) inhibit fruit set to minimize green fruitlet hand thinning; 2) improve size and quality of surviving fruit; and 3) promote return bloom to encourage annual cropping. While many pear varieties largely self-regulate their crops without chemical intervention, well-managed chemical and hand thinning programs can increase the long term profitability of some varieties including Bartlett. Some pear blocks can struggle to set commercially adequate levels of fruit and it may be advisable to clearly assess pear set before applying chemical thinners, especially when conditions have been cool and/or wet during bloom.

Postbloom thinning on pears

Symptom/Behaviour	Chemical	Rate per Acre	REI	PHI	Notes
All varieties	metamitron Brevis SC	16 - 48 fl oz	12 hours	72 days	Apply Brevis SC between late petal fall and 20 mm fruitlet size. Use a non-ionic surfactant with Brevis SC in applications west of the Rocky Mountains. Consult the product label for more information.
	6-BA Exilis 9.5 SC	9.6 - 25.6 fl oz	12 h	86 d	
	6-BA MaxCel	48-128 fl oz	12 h	86 d	BA may be applied when pears are 5-15 mm in diameter to reduce fruit set, increase fruit size, and promote return bloom.
	ABA ProTone SG	6.6 - 33.1 oz	4 h	none listed	Target upper portions of tree canopy and apply during slow-drying conditions for better results. ABA may cause significant leaf yellowing and/or abscission. Organic
Bartlett, Bosc	Naphthaleneacetamide Amid-Thin W	1.6-8 oz	48 h	2 d	
	NAA Fruitone L	4 - 8 fl oz	48 h	2 d	See label for details
	NAA PoMaxa Plant Growth Regulator	4 fl oz	48 h	2 d	Can be used to thin pears 15-28 days after full bloom. For best results, apply NAA products with a surfactant (wetting agent) when temperatures are between 70 and 75 F.

Symptom/Behaviour	Chemical	Rate per Acre	REI	PHI	Notes
Bartlett, Bosc, Comice	NAA Refine 3.5 WSG	12 - 20 oz	48 h	2 d	
	NAA Refine 6.25L	8-12 fl oz	48 h	2 d	Can be used to thin pears 15-28 days after full bloom. For best results, apply NAA products with a surfactant (wetting agent) when temperatures are between 70 and 75 F.

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