

PROTECTIVE FOG -- A visitor to this almond grove in Shandon, California, might wonder how a thick blanket of fog could appear on a sunny, cold afternoon. The answer is the Mee Fog System (foreground) which provides freeze protection both outdoors and in greenhouses. Inventor Tom Mee, who formed his own company in San Gabriel, California, designed the system which creates the fog by shooting water under extreme pressure out of holes the size of human hair, past a sharp pinpoint that further atomizes the spray. Mee had noticed that smudge pots used on freezing nights do not hold in the natural heat radiating from plants the way fog will. The system can also be used to keep things cool and comfortable on hot, dry days and can be incorporated with insecticides in greenhouses.

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