

#### Abstract:

The discovery of 1-MCP as a potent inhibitor of ethylene action is described in this review. In the 1980's, several compounds, i.e. 2,5-norbornadiene and diazocyclopentadiene (DACP) were tested as ethylene action inhibitors but were deemed to be unacceptable. The research on DACP revealed the presence of light-induced breakdown product of DACP which was very effective at inhibiting ethylene action. Through a progression of experiments, cyclopropenes, such as 1-methylcyclopropene, were identified as ethylene inhibitors. This discovery has been patented and is now commercially available.