

Nematicide Application Protocol

(Code of good practice for the use of nematicides)

Professional advice

Growers must demonstrate that advice has been sought from a BASIS qualified agronomist prior to the purchase and use of a nematicide. Recommendation sheets should be available for each treated field.

Operator requirements

Operators must be qualified to apply nematicides (NPTC PA4 or PA4G certification).

By March 2017 staff applying nematicides must have completed the Industry Stewardship Training module.

Machinery details

Growers must demonstrate that the granule applicator has been calibrated and checked by a qualified engineer within the last 2 years.

Rotors or cassettes must be appropriate for the nematicide.

When applying nematicide growers should keep records to demonstrate that:

- The applicator is checked prior to each work day, ensuring all pipework is correctly fitted, the hopper bungs are in place and the hopper lids are secure.
- The applicator is calibrated each week
- The area treated and the product volume used match for each field

Protecting the environment – preventing granule spills

Nematicides must be applied and incorporated within a single pass. Applicators with a working width wider than the rotavator should not be used.

By March 2017 all applicators must be fitted with a device in cab that allows the operator to shut off nematicide granule flow at least 3 meters from the end of each row. For those applicators fitted with a hydraulic or electric motor this should already be possible. For those applicators driven by a land or spider wheel an electronic clutch can be fitted to the applicator drive shaft to enable remote shut off. [<http://www.cropsprayers.com/Horstine/>]

After planting growers should rotavate headlands to ensure no granules left on the soil surface.

Growers should use a single site for filling hoppers in each field which can easily be checked for spillages.

Small spillages should be buried immediately ensuring no granules are left on the surface.

In the case of a larger spillage growers should use the original container to hold the product. Clearly identify the container to avoid re-use. Contact manufacture for advice on disposal.

Operator exposure

Operators are required to use correct PPE in line with product labels and COSHH

A stable filling platform should be available for safe lifting and emptying of the nematicide containers

Operators and field supervisors should be aware of the procedures required in the case of an accidental poisoning to a member of staff.

Post Application wildlife monitoring

Growers should check treated fields 24 hours post application for any bird or animal carcasses. Any carcasses found may indicate poor incorporation of granules. (If granules are seen on the surface they should be incorporated immediately).

If you suspect the bird or animal has been poisoned please remove and cover the carcass and contact Natural England (Tel 0800 321600) and the granule manufacturer.

Vydate call DuPont 01438 734450

Nemathorin call Syngenta 0800 1696058

Mocap call Certis 01223 894261

USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE.