



## **Biocontrol Nematode Sprayer Application Guide**

### **Sprayer Preparation**

- All screens (including nozzle screens) and inline filters removed. Replace all nozzles with a fertilizer stream nozzle (i.e. Tee Jet 0015) to apply nematodes in a concentrated stream onto the soil surface.
- Calibrate Sprayer to 50 gpa.

### **Delivery of biocontrol nematodes**

- Schedule for delivery of biocontrol nematodes (total acres and delivery dates) will be determined in advance and coordinated with producer.
- Nematodes will be delivered to the farm in a liquid concentration.
- The amount of liquid delivered depends on the number of acres ordered and the final concentration.
- Persistent Biocontrol will pump the nematode liquid solution into the producer provided tank and dilute it to a standard concentration to fit the situation.
- Pump and aerate stones to bubble liquid concentration will be provided.
- Bubbling of nematodes in liquid provides 14 days of shelf life. Tank must be stored in a covered area out of direct sunlight.

## **Application of biocontrol nematodes**

- Field application of biocontrol nematodes should be delayed until late in the day due to their sensitivity to UV light.
- The mix ratio of nematodes solution to water is dependent on the nematode concentration at delivery and that concentration will be provided to the applicator.
- For example, at the 10x nematode concentration, and an application rate of 50 gpa, the mix ratio will be 2 gallons of nematode solution in 500 gallons of water, and this will inoculate 10 acres.
- Once the spray tank is filled, nematode application should occur as quickly as possible. Nematodes need oxygen and too much delay before application causes nematode death in the spray tank. Agitation should be used to keep the nematodes suspended and increase oxygen in the water.

## **Application Duration**

Based on previous applications conducted by producers and commercial applicators, some general facts to know while planning your application:

- Filling the sprayer tank that will be used to apply each load of nematodes takes 10-15 minutes.
- Once at the field, the time it takes to drive entire field regardless of total acreage is about 1 ac per minute.
- A 100-acre field will take the driver from fill-up to finished application approximately 2 hours.

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