

## Nematicide Application Protocol (extract from Red Tractor)

### APPENDIX 3: NEMATICIDE APPLICATION PROTOCOL

(Code of good practice for the application of nematicides)

#### Professional advice

Growers should always seek advice 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 have to 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 should be able to demonstrate that the granule applicator has been calibrated and has been inspected and certified annually by NSTS.

Rotors or cassettes should 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 should 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 put emergency procedures in place and make sure those dealing with the spillage wear appropriate PPE, as stated on the product label. Ensure operators have appropriate emergency equipment such as spill kit and decontamination equipment for skin and eyes, emergency details for the products being used; and a list of emergency contact details for the environment agencies and medical services.

Transfer the granules to the original container or an empty container that originally held the same product. The container should be in good condition and with an undamaged label. Access the container by removing the valve and undoing the clamp (or tie seals) around the neck.

If an original product container is not available, transfer the spilled granules into a suitable, larger container clearly labeled with the product name and the hazard classification and risk and safety phrases shown on the product label.

#### 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 exposure 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. Remove and cover the carcass, then contact the Wildlife Incident and Investigation (WIIS) using the UK free-phone number **0800 321600**. Also, the granule manufacturer.

Vydate call DuPont **01438 734450**

Nemathorin call Syngenta **0800 1696058**

Mocap call Certis **01223 894261**