

The latest nematode efficient at lower temperatures

The latest nematode product is available from the producers of our popular Nematop range, which has efficiency at lower temperatures

Nemamax® contains beneficial nematodes of the species *Heterorhabditis downesi*. The host range is similar to *H. megidis* and *H. bacteriophora* and comprises of vine weevil larvae (*Otiorhynchus spp.*), pine weevil (*Hylobius abietis*) and chafer grubs (*Hoplia philanthis*, *Melolontha melolontha*)

How it works

Infective juveniles of nemamax® forage for an insect host in the soil, enter it through natural openings, and release bacterial cells that kill the host within 48 hours. In smaller insects, host mortality can occur in minutes.



The nematodes feed upon the bacterial cells and degrading host tissues, mature and mate. As the nutrition quality within the cadaver deteriorates, the nematodes develop into infective juveniles, emerge from the cadaver and seek new hosts. Under ideal conditions, infective juveniles emerge from the cadaver appr. 12 -14 days after infection.

The species follows a cruiser strategy to locate potential hosts, so it disperses well in soils and substrates.

Heterorhabditis downesi infects and kills insects at temperatures between 8° and 35°C. Highest reproduction in hosts occurs at 15-20°C.

How best to apply

- Remove all filters and sieves
- Use nozzles with at least 0.8 mm diameter
- Moisten soil well
- Spray at least 1,000 L/ha
- Spray early morning or during rainfall or in the evening after 6 pm
- Within 30 minutes after application, wash nematodes into the soil using 2-5 L per m²
- Keep the soil moist for at least 2 weeks

EU regulation on organic production 848 / 2018 recommends the use of natural enemies for pest and disease control. The entomopathogenic nematode in nemamax® is a natural enemy of many insect pests so it can be applied in organic production without any restriction.

nemamax® should be stored at 4-8°C and 50-90 % humidity, is available in packages of 50 and 250 million nematodes and compatibility/suitability for tank mixes is the same as for *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora*.

The shelf life is 6 weeks.

For more information, please contact your FAST advisor
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