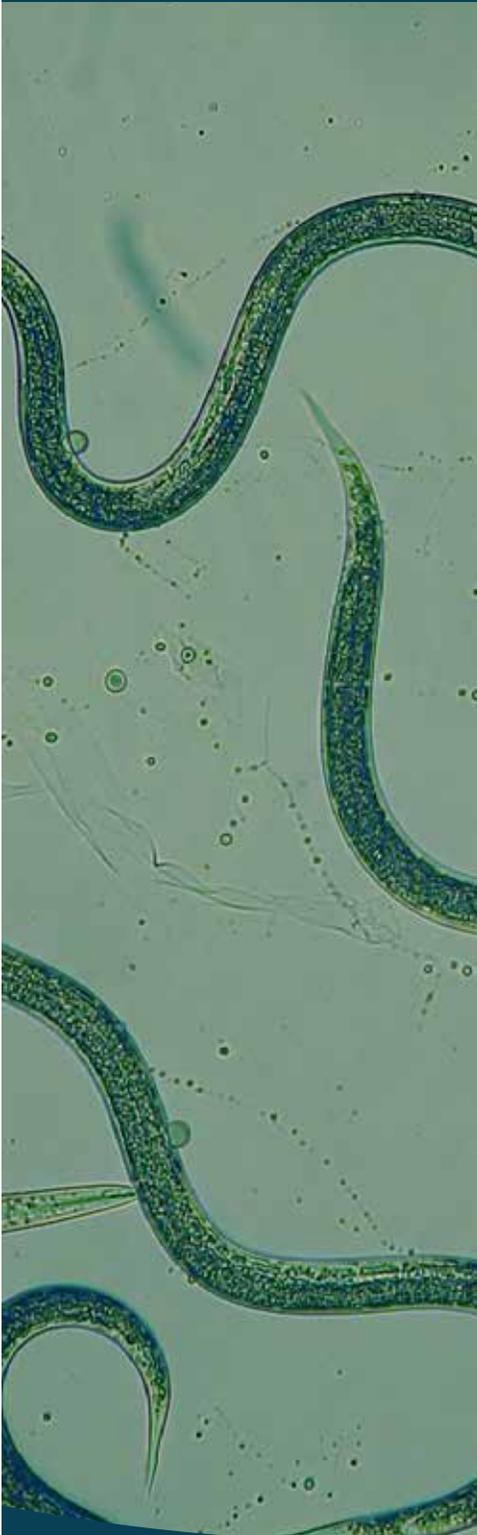


Handling Beneficial Nematodes

Specific for: *Steinernema carpocapsae*



Storage

When you receive your nematodes and you aren't ready to use them just at the moment, you can store them for a maximum of 6-8 weeks if necessary. You need temperatures of between 4 – 12°C. Remove the bags from the box they are packed in. Don't let them freeze!

Field & Environmental Conditions

Ideally the soil should be moist and in the range of 12 to 28°C. If necessary, irrigate to make the field wet enough, and after application in order to keep the soil moist for at least two weeks. It is best to water after application anyway to wash nematodes off the foliage. The best weather conditions for application are late afternoon or early evening, or early morning. Cloudy and cool is best; do not apply during sunny weather. If you begin in cloudy conditions and the sun comes out, irrigate to keep the field moist.

Mixing & Application

- Although they can be safely stored, we recommend you apply your nematodes as soon as possible.
- Use the entire bag at one time; do not try to keep a part bag in storage.
- Make a pre-mix solution of 500 million nematodes in 20 L of water at one time. Fill the tank half with water, add the pre-mix, then continue to fill the tank with water.
- Agitate to mix well and prevent contents from settling. Remove all filters and sieves from spraying and pumping equipment.
- Nozzle diameter should be at least 0.8 mm diameter.
- Pressure should not exceed 300 psi.
- Avoid mixing in direct sunlight. Once mixed, apply within a couple of hours.
- Add a wetting agent adjuvant to the solution, for overhead and helicopter application.
- If agitation is not possible, and for drip irrigation, use 0.3% carboxymethylcellulose in the solution (wallpaper glue!).
- Although nematodes can be co-mixed with fertilizer, try to avoid mixing with other products.