NIMITZ™

Frequently Asked Questions

What is NIMITZ™?

NIMITZ is a novel broad-spectrum, non-fumigant nematicide, which is highly effective in controlling plant-parasitic nematodes with simplified application features and unprecedented user safety. NIMITZ provides superior root-health protection against nematodes when used on tomatoes, peppers, okra, eggplant and cucurbits.

What is fluensulfone?

Fluensulfone is the active ingredient in NIMITZ. It is a new molecule representing a new chemical class called heterocyclic fluoroalkenyl sulfones. No other plant protection tool in the world has this same mode of action or holds the same classification.

Tobacco NIMITZ vs Untreated
Trial by Dr. Alex Csinos, University of Georgia, Tifton

Who discovered this technology and when?

Fluensulfone was discovered in Japan. ADAMA initiated development after the active ingredient showed promise as a replacement to organophosphate and carbamate nematicides. Since 2007, NIMITZ has been extensively tested around the world by university researchers, governmental trial stations, private contractors and ADAMA technical teams. More than 1,000 field trials and hundreds of regulatory studies in 23 countries have been conducted to demonstrate NIMITZ effectiveness plus its unique handling and application benefits.

How does NIMITZ perform in comparison to market standards?

NIMITZ has consistently demonstrated nematode control comparable to the best commercial standards.

What makes NIMITZ unique?

NIMITZ is the first new chemical nematicide to be developed in more than 20 years. It provides an unmatched combination of safety and efficacy. As a non-gas formulation, the unique mode of action of NIMITZ reduces human and environment impact - avoiding public hazard and complex regulations generally associated with nematicides. It also simplifies nematode management by eliminating stringent requirements typical of conventional fumigant nematicides applications like Fumigant Management Plans, 24-hour field monitoring and restrictive buffer zones. Additionally, NIMITZ has no re-entry interval (REI) and does not require certified applicator training. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is minimal.

What impact does NIMITZ have on soil micro flora?

NIMITZ targets nematodes without disrupting the balance of the soil ecosystem. Healthy, fully-functioning soil is balanced to provide an environment that sustains and nourishes plants, soil microbes and other beneficial organisms. Managing for soil health is one of the most effective ways to increase crop productivity, profitability and sustainability.

How does NIMITZ work?

The active ingredient in NIMITZ is distributed through the soil and into contact with nematodes through water movement via irrigation or rainfall following application. As a 'true nematicide', NIMITZ causes irreversible nematicidal activity resulting in pest mortality within 24 to 48 hours rather than temporary nematostatic (repelling or immobilizing) activity as seen with organophosphates and carbamate nematicides. NIMITZ provides equivalent nematode control when compared to commercial standards.

How does NIMITZ get applied to a crop?

NIMITZ application options include drip-injection, and broadcast or banding with mechanical incorporation. This gives growers more flexibility in both application method and when compared to fumigant nematicides.

How safe does EPA consider NIMITZ?

NIMITZ is classified by the EPA as having the least restrictive signal word of 'CAUTION' on its label. EPA summarized this new active ingredient best in the Federal Docket [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0629, July 25, 2014], stating 'Fluensulfone (NIMITZ) represents a safer alternative for nematode control with a new mode of action and a much simpler and straight forward product label.'

How long does it work and what is its half-life in the soil?

NIMITZ has a soil half-life of 7 to 17 days with nematicidal activity observed up to 45 days. The creation of a nematode-free zone for early root establishment is the most effect means of reducing nematode impact.

How can NIMITZ contribute to my Sustainability Plan?

NIMITZ will reduce standard nematicide use rates from gallons of product to pints per acre. More importantly, NIMITZ safety profile - with a 'CAUTION' signal word - replaces nematicides with 'WARNING' and 'DANGER' signal words. As a non-gas formulation, NIMITZ reduces human and environmental impact while eliminating stringent requirements typical of conventional fumigant nematicide applications. It has no re-entry interval (REI) and requires minimal personal protective equipment (PPE). Tarping/plastic is not required for efficacy of NIMITZ as it is with fumigant nematicides.

When and where will NIMITZ be registered?

By the end of 2014, registration is anticipated in the U.S., Canada and Australia for use prior to transplanting solanaceous and cucurbitaceous crops. Additional international registrations are pending in Brazil, Japan, South Africa and India. Crops registered for use in the U.S. are cucurbits, (including cucumbers, watermelons, cantaloupe and squash), and fruiting vegetables (tomatoes, peppers, okra and eggplants). To note, the process for MRLs has been initiated by ADAMA for the export of produce. The company expects to obtain further registrations of NIMITZ in more countries and crops.

How will applicators receive training for NIMITZ?

Because NIMITZ is NOT classified by the EPA as a restricted use pesticide, applicators of this product do not have the same mandatory requirements. In California, a 'Nematicide' classification would be required on a PCA license. Crop advisors will be provided additional training exclusive to NIMITZ through ADAMA.

For more information call 866-406-6262 or visit adama.com

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