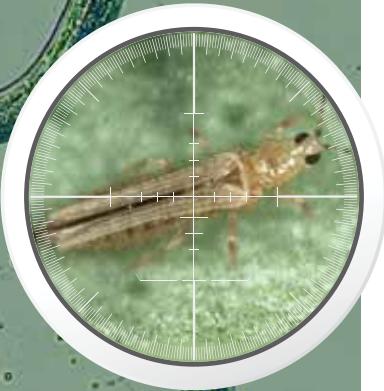


Steinernema feltiae

for the control of **Western Flower Thrips** and **Fungus Gnat**



Basic Biology of Nematodes

Predatory nematodes are one of the more unusual tools available to producers to help control pests of food and ornamental crops. With the steady advance of scientific research, these beneficial nematodes are becoming both more common and less expensive. Of the more than 80,000 species of nematodes known to exist, only a few are insect-parasitic (entomopathogenic). We can and do use them to our benefit, and there are several commercially developed and produced species available for several situations.

How to Use Nematodes Against Western Flower Thrips and Fungus Gnat

Western Flower Thrips (WFT) is a major pest of greenhouse crops. WFT pierces plant tissue and sucks up the cellular contents, deforming the plant parts. It can also spread viruses. Fungus Gnats, also a common greenhouse pest, cause damage by tunneling into roots and stems, causing wilting, as well as exposing plants to attack by fungal pathogens.

S. feltiae can be used to control populations of both WFT and Fungus Gnats. Apply them at 50 million nematodes per 100 square meters at first. Following an initial application, re-apply ***S. feltiae*** weekly at a lighter rate to maintain control. Use enough water to completely soak the growing media, but not enough to leach the containers. About 150 L of water per 100 square meters can be used. Early in the growth cycle, apply as a drench to the media, then later as a foliar application to catch the foliar-dwelling insect stages. The use of black-out curtains after application in the greenhouse will help keep the target pest sitting on the foliage where it can be attacked, rather than flying around above the foliage.

- Entomopathogenic nematodes are best when used as preventative practice.
- Know your pests and always monitor populations.
- Results may not be noticeable immediately. Nematodes and other bio-controls are not pesticides and do not act instantaneously.
- Nematodes can be used in conjunction with other bio-controls.

How to Order

S. feltiae is available in units of 50 million, 250 million, 500 million or a case of 5 x 250 million.

Please order by the end of the day every Wednesday for delivery the following Tuesday. For large amounts, please inquire with the TerraLink Sales Desk at 1-800-661-4559.

For tech sheets on other nematodes offered by TerraLink, or more information in general, type "nematode" into the search bar on the front page of our website, www.tlhort.com.

Beneficial Nematodes

for Greenhouse Production



TerraLink: Now a distributor of Beneficial Nematodes!

TerraLink has become a primary distributor for beneficial nematodes to commercial greenhouse producers in BC and Alberta. Insect-parasitic nematodes have been used for many years as bio-control alternatives to chemical applications. We can supply the following species for greenhouse production:

Beneficial Nematode	Target Pests
Steinernema feltiae	Western Flower Thrips, Fungus Gnat
Steinernema carpocapsae	Shore Fly, Cutworms, weevils

General Guidelines on How to Use Beneficial Nematodes:

- As with any biological control, beneficial nematodes are best used as a preventative practice. Large pest infestations may take some time to control with repeated applications.
- Use a spray application system with filters no smaller than 50 mesh, nozzle apertures larger than 0.5 mm, and lower than 300 psi pump pressure.
- Make sure to use a spray adjuvant in your nematode solution.
- Upon mixing your nematodes into solution, use it within 2 hours for best results.
- Agitate the solution, preferably with an air circulation system.
- Apply in early morning or the evening, to avoid drying and exposure to UV light.
- Beneficial nematodes have a storage shelf life of about two months, provided they are kept at 2-5 degrees and moist, but not frozen.

For more information please contact your TerraLink Sales Representative:

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