

The Farm Gate

Organic Grower Newsletter

TerraLink Horticulture Inc.

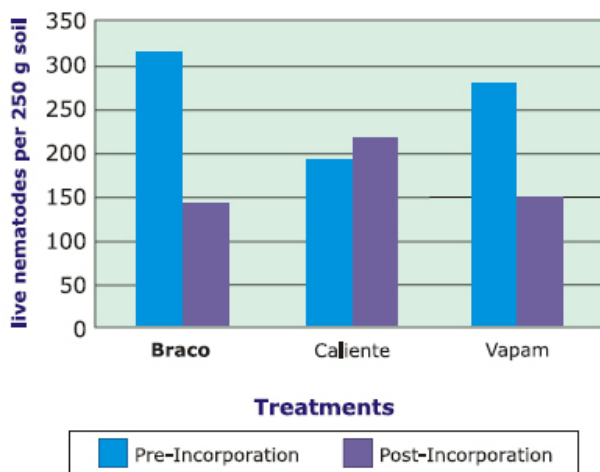
June 2009

Nematode Control

'Braco' Mustard beats Nematodes

Braco is a variety of white mustard that is a useful cover crop in vineyards and small fruit crops, annual crop rotations and small farms as a winter cover. In addition to producing a large amount of high protein green manure, Braco has been shown to suppress nematodes, wireworms and other soil borne organisms as well as some weed seeds. When it is plowed down, it can also reduce the nitrogen needs for the next crop due to its high nitrogen content.

Nematode suppression occurs in two ways. Braco releases a chemical similar to cyanide that acts as a fumigant in the soil. Also, nematode larvae penetrate the mustard root, but are unable to complete their life cycle, thus drastically reducing the number of nematodes in the soil the following year. Seed Braco white mustard at the rate of 15 – 20 pounds per acre. The following chart demonstrates the effectiveness of Braco on Dagger nematodes.



New Organic Fungicide

Serenade MAX

Serenade MAX is a broad spectrum preventative bio-fungicide for suppression of many fungal diseases on a wide variety of crops. The active ingredient is the QST 713 strain of *Bacillus subtilis*. This product has received OMRI certification, and as such is suitable for use in organic agriculture. It can protect vegetables, fruit, nut, and vine crops against diseases such as Fire Blight, Botrytis, Sour Rot, Rust, Sclerotinia, Powdery Mildew, Bacterial Spot and White Mold. Serenade MAX has multiple sites of action, making it difficult for pathogens to develop resistance. Serenade also has a zero-day pre-harvest interval (PHI), making it an excellent choice for late season disease control. The application rate for most crops is 2.4kg/acre, repeated 10-14 days later as needed.

Improve Roadside Sales

Packaging Solutions for Fresh Market Sales

Blueberry Boxes:

For fresh market sales of blueberries, we stock sturdy corrugated boxes in two sizes: 10 lbs or 5 lbs of fruit. Our boxes have attractive blue and green graphics, have stacking tabs and good ventilation.



Berry Flats:

Just look at our attractive flats! White with colorful red, blue and green graphics of berries on the sides. Perfect for fresh market berry sales, it will hold twelve pints, or four #1 1/2 green fibre baskets, or eight #8K blue foam trays.

Baskets and Trays:

We have a wide choice of green pressed fiber berry baskets, including #5, #3, #1.5, quart and pint. Or try our blue foam trays in two sizes, #8K and #24.

Rooted in your community.

TerraLink

Organic Products Available from TerraLink

| NUTRIENTS | |
|---|---|
| 8-4-5 Granular Fertilizer | A feathermeal based fertilizer. Also contains bonemeal and potassium sulphate |
| 10-3-3 Granular Fertilizer | Same as the 8-4-5. Also contains blood meal |
| 12-0-0 Blood Meal | A great Nitrogen source |
| 2-14-0 Bone Meal | A good Phosphorous source |
| Natural K-Mag (0-0-22+22S + 10.8Mg) | A good source of Potassium, Sulphur, and Magnesium |
| Solubor (21% Boron) | Water- soluble Boron |
| Agro-K DL 0-0-6 liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Cal-Mag DL liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Vigor Cal 5% | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Magnesium DL 3% liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Zinc DL 10% liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Iron DL 5% liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Copper DL 5% liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| Agro-K Manganese DL 5% liquid | liquid foliar fertilizer |
| SOIL AMENDMENTS | |
| Calpril | Prilled lime to raise pH |
| Dolopril | Prilled lime to raise pH and provide Magnesium |
| Elemental Sulphur (90% S) | A great way to lower soil pH |
| ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS | |
| Kelp Meal & Liquid Kelp | Supplements a balanced nutrition program |
| Pacific Natural Fish Fertilizer (2-3-0) | enzymatically digested liquid fish fertilizer |
| Sunshine Peat Moss | Fine grade sphagnum peat moss |
| Agro-K Symbex | Microbial activator |
| Black Earth mini granule | |
| Canadian Mountain Gypsum | |
| PEST CONTROL | |
| Biological Controls | Controls are available for aphids, thrips, spider mites and other pests |
| Dipel 2F | Bio-insecticide for various caterpillars |
| Entrust 80W | Spinosad insecticide |
| GF-120 Fruit Fly bait | Fruit fly insecticide |
| Safer's Insecticidal Soap | Natural and environmentally friendly insecticide |
| Sluggo | Slug bait |
| Surround | Kaolin clay crop protectant |
| Kumulus DF | Sulphur based Fungicide |
| MilStop | fungicide |
| Mycostop | fungicide |
| Serenade MAX | fungicide |
| Braco White mustard | nematode suppressant cover crop |
| Novagryl floating row covers | insect exclusion fabric |
| Red Dragon Flame Weeders | |



Organic Pest Control

Red Dragon Flame Weeders

The method of using flame to control weeds has been used for about 100 years. Currently the fuel of choice is liquid propane. Flaming subjects weeds to intense heat over a very short period, stripping the waxy coating on the leaves and bursting plant cells. The weeds are usually dead within one day. Flame weeding is ideally suited to row and vine crops. Minimum row spacing is 24 inches. There are specialized flame weeders for potato desiccation, alfalfa burning, grape berm / orchard weeding, poultry house sanitizing. The intense heat also gives minor control of some ground dwelling insects. Properly done, flaming will not typically ignite sawdust mulch or bedding. As flame weeding is non selective, it is best suited to crops which grow in an upright fashion, away from the competing weeds.

The use of flaming is well documented on alfalfa, potatoes, corn, cole crops, onions, tree fruits, grapes, blueberries, and cane fruit. Use of flame weeders for stale seed bed techniques is also used for heat sensitive crops which grow close to the ground. Although flame weeding's obvious fit is with organic growers, the low cost per acre for liquid propane makes it a viable option for conventional growers as well.

For more information on the Red Dragon, please call Gro-tec Equipment, the specialty equipment division of TerraLink, at 604-504-2838.

