



DOVE
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Information

Biological Control of Slugs – NEMASLUG®

Description

Nemaslug® comes in packs of 12 million, 30 million and 250 million. Each pack contains microscopic parasitic nematodes (*Phasmarhabditis* sp.) which are suspended in clay. These parasites are found naturally in the soil and give curative control of most ages and species of slug. Introduction rates are 0.5 million nematodes per m² i.e. 12 million will cover 24 m²; 30 million will cover 60 m² and 250 million will cover 500 m².

To prevent harming beneficial water snails treatment of soil close to ponds should be avoided. Nemaslug® is, however, harmless to other wildlife, pets and children.

Generally speaking, it is best to avoid chemicals when using biological control as some chemicals can remain active for up to three months after application and can cause your control to fail completely. If you follow the packet instructions, some slug pellet products can be used with Nemaslug®.

Ideal Conditions

The soil or compost to be treated should be moist; if necessary the area should be watered prior to application. To ensure maximum activity, apply Nemaslug® in the evening using a watering can. Do not apply to frozen soil; Nemaslug works best in soil temperatures of 5–20°C. If the temperature falls after application control may be a little slower, however the nematodes are capable of surviving the odd frost. Avoid application to heavy clay or waterlogged soils.

Storage

Ideally Nemaslug® should be used within two days of delivery. If this is the intention, it can be stored in a cool, dark place prior to application. If Nemaslug® is not applied within two days of delivery then store the pack(s) in a fridge at around 5°C; do not allow it to freeze and use by expiry date.

Application

The nematodes are not evenly distributed in the water so you must use the whole pack at one time. This ensures that you are applying the correct concentration of nematodes. Cold water (maximum temp 20°C, 68°F) should be used.

Results

Within one week of treatment, slugs will have stopped feeding. However Nemaslug® should remain effective for six weeks after application. Most slugs will die underground within two weeks of treatment, so you may not see dead slugs on the soil surface. To be sure of continuous control, the nematodes should be re-applied every six weeks.

Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use

Dove Associates shall in no event be liable for any loss or damage caused by the use of products mentioned in this document.

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