

Releasing Trichogramma wasps

There are various means of releasing Trichogramma. Which one you choose will be largely determined by the size of the area to be treated.

Capsules are suitable for areas up to 20 hectares. They are supplied in sheets of 60 capsules with each capsule yielding over 1,000 wasps. The card enclosure provides some protection from the elements and some predators. They are easy to apply requiring no set up or clean up. They are best stapled to foliage but they can be dropped on the row hill if ants are not present.

Loose parasitised eggs

Trichogramma can be supplied as loose parasitised eggs. The tiny eggs look like ground black pepper - around 50,000 eggs per gram. The eggs can be distributed in various ways:

Dry

The eggs can be mixed with a carrier and metered through a finely calibrated purpose-built drill then into air delivery hoses and onto the foliage. Suitable for tractor boom mount and areas over 50 hectares.

Wet

Loose eggs can be mixed into water with a special thickener added to keep the eggs in suspension. As long as the liquid is not pressurised over 5 psi and is used within 2 hours of mixing then little damage results to the eggs. Various devices are used to dose the liquid.

a) Hand operated doser

A soap type dispenser with a 5 litre back pack is a very simple method. A set dose is applied to foliage every so many meters in bands through the crop. This can be done on foot or from a bike or four wheeler. Suitable for areas 10 to 50 ha.

b) Mechanically operated doser

The action of the soap pump is mechanised by using a 12 volt motor with a reduction gear box and a drive cam fitted to the pump. A speed control keeps it at 30 revs per minute. The soap pump can also be operated by an actuator on a cyclic timer. These devices are fitted to a 4 wheeler or tractor. Suitable for areas over 50 hectares.



Capsules, 30 mm x 30 mm and 3 mm thick



Capsules are supplied in sheets of 60.



Dry loose egg distributor for tractor mount



Hand operated wet parasitised egg dispensers

Trichogramma pretiosum are produced by **Bugs for Bugs** Mundubbera Qld.

For advice and sales enquires contact Richard Llewellyn at:

BioResources Pty Ltd ABN 12 078 989 081

PO Box 578 Samford Qld 4520 Phone (07) 3289 4919 Fax (07) 3289 4918

email: richard@bioresources.com.au web page: www.bioresources.com.au