

#### Q and A for the Manitoba Garden Centre sector



# What's up with Intercept?

Effective April 11th, 2021, Intercept, which many folks use for Aphid Control, will have restrictions put on its use. You might ask why now?

Well Intercept, and more specifically the active ingredient in Intercept, Imidacloprid, is a Neonicotinoid. The 'Neo nics' as they are commonly referred to have been gradually coming off the market due to their negative impact on pollinators.

For most Manitoba greenhouses, garden centers and nurseries this will leave them seeking chemical or biological control options for their aphid control.

Feel free to call Rob at 204-237-9095 or e-mail rob@even spray.com to discuss your needs.

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## Are you aware of SuffOil-X?



Although some of you are aware of, and even using SuffOil-X, I'm sure there are those who don't know about it as well.

Suff-Oil-X is a mineral oil that acts as a suffocant against thrips, mealy bugs, aphids, whiteflies, spider mites and powdery mildew and is OMRI certified. Although is has a broad label, it is recommended for pest populations that are still at fairly low levels and or for use in combination with biological pest control. It can even be used as a dip!

Speaking of dips...

# Do you dip?

Most of you are aware of the benefits of bio-dips but I do have conversations with customers who either don't know about the process or just simply forget about it in their planning process.

Dips are the use of biopesticide solutions in a tray or a tub where bundles of cuttings or trays of plugs can be briefly submerged and thoroughly wetted prior to transplanting or sticking.

Effective dips with products such as Steinernema, Root Shield and BotaniGard can significantly reduce the need for heavy rounds of chemical pesticides later in the crop cycle.

Dipping is not a panacea for diseases and pest control but those who employ this tactic are staunchly committed to it.



### **TEST YOUR WATER RECENTLY?**

Although the lifeblood of any crop is often the soil, in instances where soil-less mixes are used the lifeblood of the crop is predominantly the water source used for irrigation. Many of you grow in soil-less mixes and knowing what's in your water, or not in your water, becomes critical to understanding nutrient availability, possibly watering practices and ultimately the quality of

your plants. In the big picture testing your water is cheap and should be done annually. Even Spray can conduct the test for \$73 plus taxes and typically within 7-10 days provide results and recommendations specific for your operation. Want further information? Contact Rob at Even Spray and/or participate in MBNLA"S February 10 webinar titled "What's in your Water?"