Tobacco Sucker Control Program

In today's flue-cured tobacco production environment, tobacco suckers must be controlled on average for as long as 10-12 weeks. A good sucker control program is key to better yields, better quality, and lower production costs.

Coastal has been in the sucker control business for over 50 years and over those years has developed and refined what we believe is the best sucker control program on the market. Utilizing our contact materials Kleen Tac 85, Ten Tac, and Green Tac along with our systemic material Check MH15 where applicable, Coastal provides you the opportunity to improve your bottom line while increasing quality and yield of your flue-cured tobacco crop.

The Program

Contacts

1) **Start early—Apply first application of Kleen Tac 85 at 30-40% button stage. For first application use a 4% solution (2 gallons of Kleen Tac 85 in 48 gallons of water) and 2 quarts of NutriSol 10% Calcium.**
2) **3-5 days after first application, apply Kleen Tac 85 using a 5% solution (2.5 gallons Kleen Tac 85 in 47.5 gallons of water) and 2 quarts of NutriSol 10% Calcium.**
3) **5-7 days after the second contact application, apply Kleen Tac 85 using a 5% solution (2.5 gallons of Kleen Tac 85 in 47.5 gallons of water) and 2 quarts of NutriSol 10% Calcium. Apply 5% solution weekly thereafter up to 7 applications.**

Keys to Good Sucker Control with Kleen Tac 85

- **Start Early**—30-40% button Stage
- **Be Timely**—3 to 6 applications at proper timing intervals
- **Correct Rate**—Use proper concentrations (4% solution for first application, 5% solution for subsequent applications)
- **Proper Application**—Apply as course spray in enough volume to run the solution down the stalk so maximum contact is made with the suckers (typically 50 gallons per acre)

Systemics

Option 1 (Tips 10-15 inches) - Apply up to 3 quarts of Prime Plus or FluPro and 2 quarts NutriSol 10%Calcium in two separate applications. Let tips get 16-18 inches then apply 1.5 gallons of Check MH15 with Matrixx at 1 pint/100 gallons. Do NOT prime tobacco for 10 days after MH Application.

Option 2 (Tips 16-18 inches) - Apply 1.5 gallons Check MH15 with Matrixx at 1 pint/100 gallons and 2 quarts NutriSol 10% Calcium. Prime Plus or FluPro may be tank mixed with or applied 5-7 days later in a separate application. Do NOT prime tobacco for 10 days after MH Application.

Keys to good Sucker Control with Check MH15

- **Proper Timing**—MH applications should not be made until tip leaves are at least 16 inches. Applying MH before tips are 16-18 inches can distort tips and reduce yield 5-8%.
- **Proper Application**—MH should be applied uniformly to the upper third to half of the plant using high volume (50-60 gpa) and low pressure (20 psi)
- **Use Matrixx**—Using Matrixx with your MH application significantly increases absorption and translocation. The benefits are more efficient utilization of MH without excessive MH rates while cutting rain fast times from 10 to 3 hours.
- **Correct Rate**—Use 1.5 gallon application rate of MH with Matrixx at 1 pint/100 gallons. **Allow at least 10 days prior to harvest after MH application.**

The Key to Successful Sucker Control is Timing and Proper Application.

Be On Time with your Sucker Control!

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