

A new reduced risk pesticide for powdery mildew control

By Graeme Murphy

Powdery mildew has been listed as the top, or one of the top, disease priorities for greenhouse ornamentals for the past few years. Therefore, the recent registration of a new fungicide for control of powdery mildew is welcome news for growers.

MilStop Foliar Fungicide is a formulation of potassium bicarbonate registered for the control/suppression of this disease. MilStop was submitted as a reduced-risk product and it was registered in a very short period of time, about five months from its submission to registration. If not a record for a new registration, it must be very close to one. Some notes on its use:

- Additional wetting agents should not be used; MilStop comes pre-formulated with wetting agents.
- It is a naturally alkaline product and neutralization of the solution will reduce product performance. Therefore, do not acidify water prior to mixing the product.
- Do not mix with other pesticides or fertilizers that are not compatible with mild alkaline solutions.
- It is a contact fungicide, so complete coverage is essential for the most effective results.
- Applications should be started at the first sign of disease and repeated at 1-2 week intervals until conditions are no longer suitable for the disease.

LABELLED CROPS

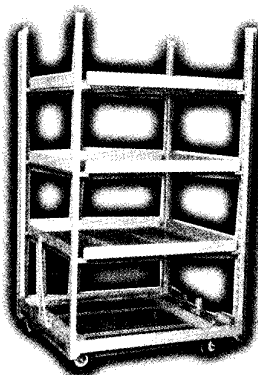
Greenhouse vegetable crops (tomato, cucumber and pepper) are on the label. From an ornamentals perspective, the label is rather interesting and includes hydrangea, poinsettia, African daisy, phlox, bee balm and flowering dogwood. Some of these are obviously important greenhouse uses, and if there are any greenhouse growers with crops of bee balm or flowering dogwood, they are probably excited about having their crops on the label as well. In speaking with Bill Foster of BioWorks Inc., they are interested and anxious to expand the label. Flowers Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) will be working with BioWorks with a view to adding crops such as roses and begonia. It should be noted that MilStop will be distributed in Canada by

Koppert Canada. Thanks are due to both BioWorks Inc. and PMRA for supporting and securing this registration for the industry. Powdery mildew has been a major pest priority for the greenhouse floriculture industry in the last couple of years, and MilStop will be a useful addition to the

disease control toolbox. 🌿

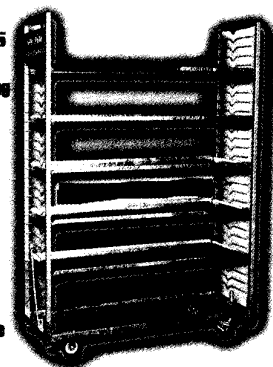
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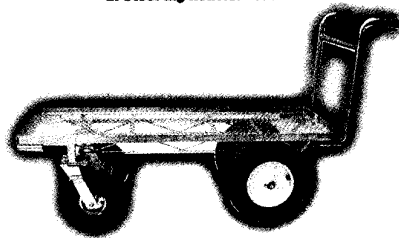


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