

Watermelon Fungicide Spray Programs 2021

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As with most crops, disease management begins prior to planting the crop to be protected. By using such methods as disease-free seed and transplants, proper rotation, disking and plowing, and use of resistant varieties, growers can minimize the amount of disease that is available to attack their crop. Using many practices takes all the weight off of any one practice and gives growers more disease management options at lower risk. Once plants are in the field, however, fungicide sprays are relied on heavily for effective and economical management of plant diseases. This spray guide is designed to encompass many diseases that attack watermelon during the growing season(s) in Georgia.

This is a generalized sequence of fungicide spray. A 7-10 day schedule can be followed; however, frequency, type and sequence of fungicide spray may vary situation to situation and field to field. Growers are advised to communicate with their respective county extension agents if they have any queries regarding this spray guide.

Spray 1: Proline at-plant drench

Spray 2: Chlorothalonil¹ - GSB; Actigard and/or copper fungicide² – BFB; Miravis Prime can be used with high-volume water after 10-14 of transplanting for additional Fusarium control

Spray 3: Chlorothalonil - GSB; Actigard and/or copper fungicide

Spray 4: Chlorothalonil - GSB; Actigard and/or copper fungicide – BFB

Spray 5: Chlorothalonil - GSB; Actigard and/or copper fungicide – BFB

FRUIT SET

Spray 6: Luna Experience – GSB; copper fungicide – BFB

Spray 7: Inspire Super or Aprovia top or Miravis Prime – GSB; Copper fungicide – BFB

Spray 8: Vivando or Gatten or Quintec – POW; Orondis Ultra (foliar) - DOW and PCAP; Copper – BFB

Spray 9: Inspire Super or Aprovia top or Miravis Prime – GSB; Vivando or Gatten or Quintec – POW; Topsin – ANTH

Spray 10: Orondis Ultra³ (foliar) – PCAP; Elumin or Ranman or Previcur flex – DOW

Spray 11: Proline or Aprovia Top OR Inspire Super – GSB and ANTH; Vivando or Gatten or Quintec – POW; Presidio – PCAP; Elumin or Previcur flex - DOW

¹ Chlorothalonil (Bravo, Echo, Equus, etc...) may cause rind burn if sprayed within 21 day of harvest.

² Actigard (0.33 fl oz) and/or Copper (any copper product; however, fixed copper tend to possess less phytotoxicity potential) is used prior to fruit set if bacterial fruit blotch is an issue.

³ Be mindful of preharvest intervals (PHIs) for later sprays as many may have a 7-14 day PHI.

Always read the label for detailed application instructions or consult the Georgia Pest Control Handbook.

Disease Acronyms: BFB = bacterial fruit blotch; GSB = gummy stem blight; POW = powdery mildew; DOW = downy mildew; ANTH = anthracnose; PCAP = Phytophthora crown and fruit rot. FW=Fusarium wilt.