



Digester

Technical Sheet Grapes, Pipfruit & Nuts

Digester is a soil microbial stimulator that activates beneficial naturally occurring saprophytic microbes in your soil that are responsible for plant material decomposition.

How does Digester work?

Digester is used to promote the rapid breakdown of leaf litter, cover crops, old roots and post-harvest crop trash in horticultural crops.

Applied directly to residual plant material, **Digester** activates decomposition microbes already present in the soil.

Digester reduces disease on the following crop by completely decomposing the plant material that plant pathogens use as a host over winter.

The benefits of using Digester:

- Accelerates crop residue, pruning and leaf litter decomposition to return nutrients and organic matter to the soil efficiently
- Improves plant nutrition for the next crop
- Reduces disease overwintering
- Increases the soil's cation exchange capacity (CEC)
- Improves the water holding capacity of the soil
- Improved soil aeration and root growth by breaking down old roots in mature orchards and vineyards.



Direction for use

- Apply **Digester** directly on to leaf litter, prunings and other crop residues.
- Requires soil moisture/rain and active soil biology.
- **Digester** can be tank mixed with herbicides, fertigation nutrients and suspension fertiliser.
- **Digester** can be applied through fertigation systems and through overhead irrigation systems fitted with an appropriate system.
- In low organic matter soils, low fertility soils or after drought add technical grade ammonium sulphate at 30 kg/ha.
- For best results avoid applying **Digester** in the heat of the day.
- Treated crop residues should be lightly incorporated where possible in order to maintain moisture.

For specific crop recommendations contact your local BioStart representative.

| Crop | Timing | Application Rate | Recommended Co-Application |
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| Grapes | Autumn (leaf fall) or at mulching. | 2 L/ha in a minimum of 200 L of water applied over leaf litter and prunings to the soil. For heavy disease over-wintering, cut-out diseased orchards, compacted or water-logged soil: 4 L/ha in a minimum of 200 L of water. | To reduce application cost: co-apply with commonly used post-harvest herbicides or liquid fertiliser. Digester can be applied via ground sprays, overhead sprinklers or fertigation systems. |
| Pipfruit, Stonefruit, Kiwifruit, Citrus, and Avocadoes | Autumn/ Post-harvest; Post-pruning and/or leaf fall | 4 L/ha in a minimum of 200 L of water applied over leaf litter and prunings to the soil. For heavy disease overwintering, cut-out diseased orchards, compacted or water-logged soil: 6 L/ha in a minimum of 200 L of water. | For high crop residue levels a nitrogen source may be recommended to further assist decomposition. |
| Nuts | Prior to harvest | Low organic matter soils fertigation programme: 2 L/ha via fertigation or with the last weed spray prior to harvest. Standard fertigation programme: 4 L/ha via fertigation or with the last weed spray prior to harvest. | Call BioStart for further information. Pack sizes available: 10 and 20 litre |