FOGGER FAQS

Is it safe to assume that all thermal foggers operate in the same way?

Just like most things in life, an adjective can mean different things. The Dramm's pulsFOG does generate heat, but the heat is not what creates the fogging solution. The fog is created by kinetic energy, which breaks the droplets into smaller droplets for excellent coverage. A fogger than directly heats the chemistry is creating a gas, which is very different from simply creating very small particles of a pesticide solution. Heating the chemistry is foundation of how theatrical smoke machines work. They do a great job for their intended purpose, but crop protection products are not intended to be heated in this way.

May I use my fogger to apply all pesticides?

Three things need to be remembered when fogging: 1) Biological products should not be used with thermal foggers, as the heat may damage the crop protection product. Dramm's pulsFOG is available in a BIO- version to avoid this problem; 2) Oils are not suitable for fogging, since pest control involves suffocation, which won't be achieved with tiny particles; 3) Any caustic or acidic products, such as sanitizers, should only be used in equipment designed to tolerate the chemistry. Griffin recommends stainless-steel componentry for use with caustic chemistry.

How long should I wait before venting?

Venting generally occurs after enough time has passed that the crop protection product has deposited on the surfaces to be treated (foliage or hard surfaces). Ventilating too soon will exhaust the product before it can work and may inadvertently spread active ingredient beyond the treatment area. Waiting too long to exhaust reduces air flow and can leave humidity levels higher than desired. Worker Protection Standard mandates 10 full air exchanges in addition to the chemistry REI before entry. This can be achieved mechanically or passively by following EPA guidelines.

How quickly can I treat an area?

Griffin offers different types of foggers for different needs. Some foggers, such as Dramm's Autofogger and Mini Autofogger, operate on a timer. Staff loads the product, sets the time and walks away. Depending on the volume of solution applied, these foggers may require a few hours to get the job done but do the work without staff present. Other foggers, like Dramm's Coldfogger, pulsFOG and Turbo ULV treat an area much faster (minutes versus hours) but require an operator. The hand or cart held equipment allow staff to cover a lot of ground in a relatively short period of time.

How do I know if a carrier is safe for my crop?

Special carriers are often required for effective fogging. Horticultural carriers, such as Nutrifog and the older VK1 and VK2, are well researched and documented for efficacy and safety on horticultural crops. Only use carriers approved your equipment and for plants. Don't take chances with your carrier, as fogs, by their nature, treat large areas of crop.

Does the carrier keep my product in solution?

The carrier won't aid in mixing. Just as with any spray equipment, tank agitation is your best bet to maintain a uniformly mixed solution. If the product settles out, some parts of your crop will get too much chemical, and some will get too little. Either way, you will not get the results you expect.
Where can I go for help on rates and crop protection product selection?
Griffin's GGSPro team supports all fogger purchases with rate charts and ongoing support.

Ask your Griffin sales rep for more details.

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