

Velifer® Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is Velifer®?

Velifer® is a biological insecticide that effectively reduces target pest insect populations when used in conjunction with traditional chemistries. Velifer® contains a beneficial fungus, *Beauveria bassiana* strain PPRI 5339, that affects all life stages of the target pest from egg to adult stages, and is a valuable addition to integrated pest management programs to control major pests such as whiteflies.

Q2: How effective is Velifer®?

Velifer® has been thoroughly tested and demonstrated to suppress target pest populations as a stand-alone application when used consecutively 3-7 days apart. Therefore, Velifer® is a partner to traditional chemistry and a valuable tool in a grower's integrated pest management program (IPM).

Q3: What is the mode of action of Velifer®?

Velifer® is a direct contact insecticide containing fungal spores that start working rapidly after being deposited onto the cuticle of the pest target. Under the correct environmental conditions the spores germinate and puncture the cuticle of the pest and resulting fungal strands (mycelium) enter the insect's hemolymph. Inside the pest, the fungus proliferates in the insect body, resulting in death or disabling of the insect within 24- 48 hours.

Q4: What are the main attributes of Velifer®?

- Easy to use liquid formulation (OD)
- Recommended for use in IPM programs
- May be applied on all life stages of the target pest
- May be applied throughout all growing stages of the crop
- Safe for ornamentals; non-phytotoxic
- Residue management
- No withholding period

Q5: In which form will Velifer® be available?

Velifer® will be available in a liquid formulation (OD) that will be available in a 5L pack. Refer to the label and local use guidelines for recommended application rates.

Q6: Are there any special requirements for on-farm storage? How long can Velifer® be stored in unopened bottles?

Velifer® may be kept unopened for up to 24 months in refrigerated storage (4°C), or for up to 9 months unopened at room temperature (20°C). It should not be exposed to extreme heat (>35°C) for more than five days. Also, Velifer® should not be frozen.

- Our experience suggests that it is best to refrigerate any Beauveria product. The product will remain effective for 2 years under this storage method.

Q7: Does Velifer® enter the plant?

Velifer® does not enter the plant system. It acts outside of the plant directly on the target pest.

Q8: Does Velifer® leave any residues at harvest?

Minimal visible residue remains after the application of Velifer®.

Q9: What are the most favourable conditions for application?

Ideal temperature is between 22 - 28°C, with a humidity above 60%. Apply Velifer late afternoon as it is sensitive to high levels of UV light.

For more information on Velifer, visit crop-solutions.basf.com.au
or contact your local BASF representative on **1800 558 399**

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS BEFORE USING ANY PRODUCT IN THIS FACT SHEET.

This fact sheet is intended as general advice. The information submitted in this publication is based on current BASF knowledge and experience. In view of the many factors that may affect its application, this data does not relieve the user from carrying out their own tests. The data does not imply assurance of certain properties or of suitability for a specific purpose. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that any proprietary rights and existing laws and legislation are observed.