NURSERY PAPERS
MAY 2026

I have a pest problem. Now what do I do?

Nursery growers deal with pest and disease challenges every day. Sometimes it is a new pest. Sometimes it is an ongoing issue that no longer responds the way it once did.

One of the most common questions the GrowConnex team receives is: 'What can I spray on that?'

Chemical control can absolutely play an important role, but successful pest management usually starts earlier than the spray tank. Understanding the pest, how it spreads and the conditions that favour it can help you make better long-term decisions and reduce the risk of resistance developing over time.

Greenlife INDUSTRY AUSTRALIA
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Hort Innovation NURSERY FUND

Start with the bigger picture

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combines multiple approaches to managing pests and diseases, including:

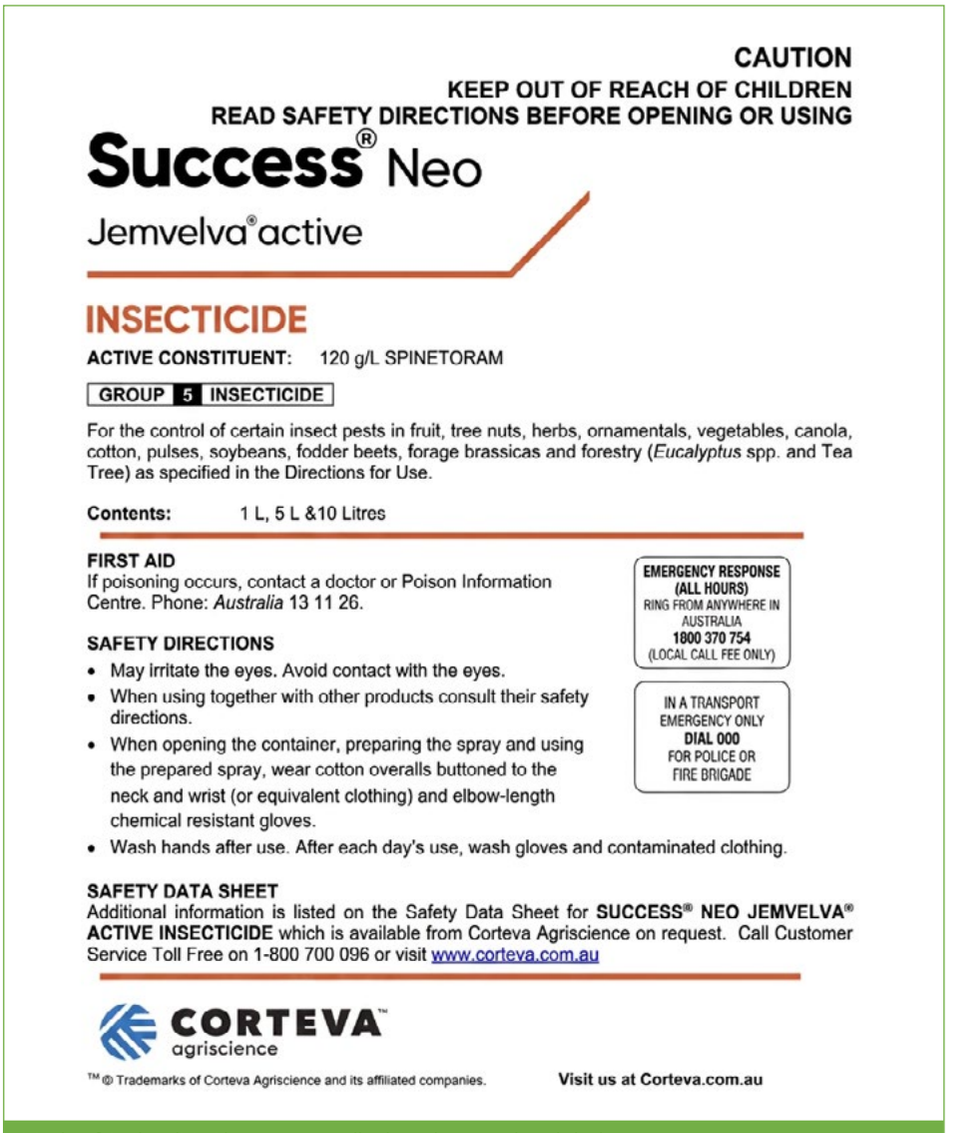
- monitoring and identification
- cultural controls
- biological controls
- hygiene and sanitation
- environmental management
- responsible pesticide use.

Taking time to understand the problem before you act can help you avoid unnecessary cost, crop damage and ineffective treatments.

A useful starting point is the Pest Management Plan template available through the APPS technical resources library: **https://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/wp-content/uploads/download-manager-files/Pest-Management-Plan-Template-.xlsx**

You can also access simple fact sheets, pest guides and management resources in the Pests, diseases and weeds section: **https://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/pests-diseases-weeds**

Even a quick review of pest biology, preferred conditions, host plants and available management options can help you build a more effective response strategy.



CAUTION
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
READ SAFETY DIRECTIONS BEFORE OPENING OR USING

Success® Neo

Jemvelva® active

INSECTICIDE

ACTIVE CONSTITUENT: 120 g/L SPINETORAM

GROUP 5 INSECTICIDE

For the control of certain insect pests in fruit, tree nuts, herbs, ornamentals, vegetables, canola, cotton, pulses, soybeans, fodder beets, forage brassicas and forestry (*Eucalyptus* spp. and Tea Tree) as specified in the Directions for Use.

Contents: 1 L, 5 L &10 Litres

FIRST AID
If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poison Information Centre. Phone: *Australia* 13 11 26.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE (ALL HOURS)
RING FROM ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA
1800 370 754
(LOCAL CALL FEE ONLY)

IN A TRANSPORT EMERGENCY ONLY
DIAL 000
FOR POLICE OR FIRE BRIGADE

SAFETY DIRECTIONS
- May irritate the eyes. Avoid contact with the eyes.
- When using together with other products consult their safety directions.
- When opening the container, preparing the spray and using the prepared spray, wear cotton overalls buttoned to the neck and wrist (or equivalent clothing) and elbow-length chemical resistant gloves.
- Wash hands after use. After each day's use, wash gloves and contaminated clothing.

SAFETY DATA SHEET
Additional information is listed on the Safety Data Sheet for **SUCCESS® NEO JEMVELVA® ACTIVE INSECTICIDE** which is available from Corteva Agriscience on request. Call Customer Service Toll Free on 1-800 700 096 or visit www.corteva.com.au

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Visit us at Corteva.com.au

Mode of Action (MoA) groups are displayed on product labels.

UNDERSTANDING LEGAL PESTICIDE USE

When it comes to pesticides, labels are more than instructions. They are legal documents and users are required to follow label directions.

This includes:

- application rates
- methods of application
- approved crops
- withholding periods
- PPE requirements
- any stated limitations or restrictions.

Pesticides registered through the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) undergo extensive testing and assessment before approval.

Registration data may include:

- crop safety assessments
- efficacy testing
- environmental assessments
- residue information
- application requirements
- PPE and safety information.

The APVMA approves products for specific uses based on the supporting data provided during registration.

If you use a pesticide outside the label directions or permit conditions, you could be breaking the law.

Why pesticide rotation matters

For many nurseries, pesticides remain an important part of an integrated pest management program.

However, repeatedly using the same chemistry can increase the risk of pesticide resistance developing within pest populations.

Where possible, try to rotate between different Mode of Action (MoA) groups when treating the same pest issue.

A Mode of Action group describes how a pesticide works to control a pest or disease. Products from the same MoA group attack the pest in a similar way, so repeated use of the same group can increase the risk of resistance developing over time.

Using multiple MoA groups helps reduce selection pressure and supports the long-term effectiveness of available chemistry.

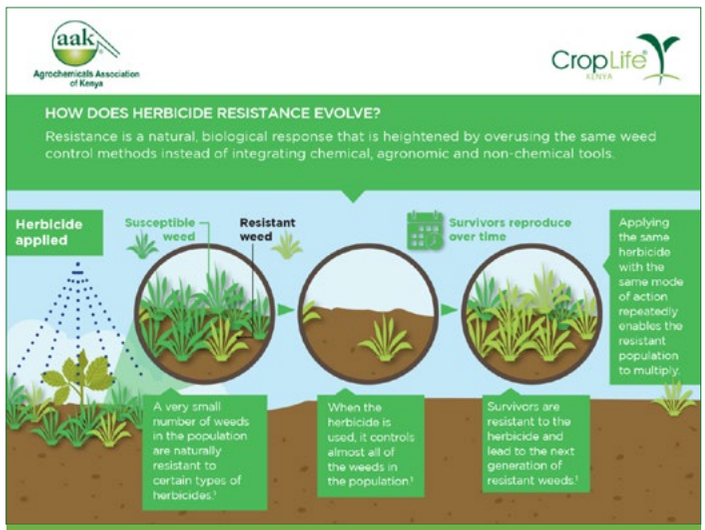
In practical terms, this means avoiding repeated applications from the same MoA group where alternative registered options are available and appropriate.

Responsible pesticide use is important not only for your business, but for maintaining ongoing industry access to effective crop protection products.

MoA Group	Product	Active	Application	Minor Use Permit no
M2	Blue Shield DF Copper Fungicide	Copper Hydroxide	Every 7-14 days, 3 applications	PER91752
3	TILT 500 EC Fungicide	Propiconazole	No more than 5 applications per year	PER91752
M1	OXYDUL DF FUNGICIDE Fungicide/ Bacteriacide	Copper Oxychloride	Every 7-14 days. no more than 6 applications	PER91752

Rotation program for treatment of Myrtle Rust on nursery stock

Weed resistance can develop when the same mode of action is used repeatedly over time. Diversifying weed management strategies helps reduce risk. Source: Adapted from AAK Grower Resource



Alternating fungicide groups and integrating non-chemical controls can help slow the development of fungicide resistance in nursery production systems. Source: Adapted from CropLife Australia resistance management resources

NURSERY STOCK AND MINOR USE PERMITS

Production nurseries grow a huge range of crops and cultivars, which can create challenges when it comes to pesticide registrations.

In the past, some labels referred to 'ornamentals' as a crop category. Increasingly, the industry standard is 'nursery stock', which better reflects the diversity of plants grown in production nurseries.

Because the nursery industry uses relatively small volumes of many pesticides compared with broadacre agriculture, manufacturers do not always pursue full nursery stock registrations for every product.

To help address this gap, the industry also relies on APVMA Minor Use Permits.

Through levy-funded programs managed by Greenlife Industry Australia (GIA), applications are made for permits that provide growers with additional legal access to pesticides that may assist with difficult pest and disease issues in nursery production.

Many permit applications also focus on providing access to additional Mode of Action groups to support resistance management and improve rotational options.

You can search current Minor Use Permits on our website at: **https://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/pesticide-minor-use-permits**

Tip: Use the search bar in the MUP table to filter by pest name, crop or active ingredient.

BE CAREFUL WHOSE ADVICE YOU FOLLOW

One issue our GrowConnex team often finds across the industry is pesticide advice that does not align with current labels or permit conditions.

Advice can come from many sources, including informal industry conversations, online groups or recommendations passed between businesses. While much of it is well intentioned, it may not always reflect current registrations or permit conditions.

Ultimately, you are responsible for making sure any pesticide you use is legally registered or permitted for your situation.

Before acting on pesticide advice, check current labels and permit information through reliable sources such as the APVMA.

You can find registered product and permit information via the APVMA website: **https://www.apvma.gov.au/registrations-and-permits/search-registered-chemical-products-and-permits/using-pubcris**

Access to pesticides and permit arrangements can vary between states and territories, so seek local advice where required.

TEST FIRST WHERE POSSIBLE

With more than 30,000 plant varieties and cultivars grown across Australian production nurseries, it is not always possible for all chemistry to be tested across every crop type.

Where practical, trial new chemistry on a small number of plants before applying it across an entire crop.

SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

- **There are a wide range of industry-developed tools, resources and support services available to production nurseries, many of which remain under-utilised.**
- **If you need help with pest management, pesticide rotation, record keeping or integrated pest management planning, contact your local GrowConnex expert. They can provide practical support, training and guidance to help you access and apply the resources available to the industry.**
- **If you think there is a chemical that should be on the MUP list, please contact Celeste Cook at celeste.cook@greenlifeindustry.org.au.**

FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Past nursery papers – *www.greenlifeindustry.org.au/news?type=36453***

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