

Nursery Cannot Go Without AquaMate® As it Becomes a Disaster of Blockages



"If we miss dosing AquaMate® into the tank, by the end of the day we have blockages, which can be a disaster"
Owner

CASE STUDY

Grower	Ross Chislett
Agronomist	
Location	QLD
Crop	Nursery

Demonstration Purpose

This wholesale nursery had continual problems in blocked irrigation lines and drippers. This caused many issues for plant health and survival rates, especially in summer and becoming a significant financial issue. They were restricted in what they could use from a chemical aspect due to the damage they can do on seedlings and plant root systems in closed pots. Their water quality is quite poor as much of it is recycled and runoff into a dam. From the dam they pump up to a large tank as their irrigation source. They grow a variety of plant species for the retail nursery market which require strong, robust healthy plants and root systems for a competitive market environment.

Demonstration Set Up

As the farm irrigates from one tank, it was the most logical dosing point of AquaMate® and therefore decided to apply it across the entire nursery. Prior to the trial commencement there were several individual plant applications of AquaMate®, straight and diluted to give the owner confidence that AquaMate® would not affect a plant in any detrimental way. A 40ppm application rate was applied in each irrigation for the full irrigation set for the first month of use. After this initial month of cleaning 30ppm was applied as a standard application rate for full irrigation set.

Application Date	Product Applied	Application Rate
First Month	AquaMate®	40ppm
Continued Application	AquaMate®	30ppm

Demonstration Results

The demonstration showed a very positive response and after each week of the initial months trial the irrigation system kept improving from the application of **AquaMate®**. Each week the owner and staff started to see less blockages and after a month and for the remainder of the season there seemed to be an elimination of blocked of drippers. After 2 months of application we installed a small aeration system in the tank to aid even further to improve the quality of the water.

The Financial Return on Investment For The Grower

The financial return in using **AquaMate®** has not been specifically calculated by nursery management, however they have stated the saving in labour in having not to continually unblock drippers and filters, and the almost elimination of plant loss due to poor irrigation, is financially significant.

Conclusion

This demonstration has shown again the ability of **AquaMate®** to remove slime/biofilm and scale from irrigation systems, and maintain a clean irrigation system from lower continual application in poor quality irrigation water. It has sustained removal of bio-films from the filter system and drippers resulting in improved water use efficiency, improved plant production and considerable savings in labour costs, time and plant loss. The nursery has continued to use AquaMate® now for over 2 years with continued good results, to the point now that as soon as AquaMate® is not dosed into the irrigation tank, blockages start to occur within hours and if not corrected by the end of the day it can be a disaster according to the nursery owner.

AquaMate® continues to contribute to producing healthy plants with robust root systems that is very important for a nursery in a competitive market.

About Advanced Nutrients

Advanced Nutrients is a leader in the development of innovative, environmentally benign fertilisers which cost less and deliver more. For the last 22 years, smart agricultural, horticultural and livestock producers throughout Australia, Africa, Asia and the Middle East have been using our products to cut input costs, boost returns and reduce farming costs.

