



Seed treatment as a best practice


Seed treatment is a precision application technique of plant protection products. Being a targeted, one-time application on seed, seed treatment effectively reduces the proportion of the treated area that comes into direct contact with the active substance. Additionally, seed treatment limits the potential exposure for operators, bystanders, and non-target species.

How does it work?

By applying precisely organic, biological and/or chemical products on seeds prior to planting, seed treatment solutions effectively protect and improve the establishment of healthy crops. Seed treatments can be particularly useful from the early stage of sowing, since they can provide protection to young plants during a vulnerable stage in their development.

Other seed treatments include the addition of nutrients or biostimulants enabling the successful establishment of the seed.





Why is seed treatment so important?

Seed treatment technology provides protection and nurturing against:

- ▶ Fungi and bacteria carried on the seed
- ▶ Diseases which can affect early growth of the plant
- ▶ Insect pests which attack the young seedling
- ▶ Insects which spread viruses through the crop

Which are the key benefits?

- ▶ It contributes to a more secure crop yield for feeding the growing world population;
- ▶ It provides an effective use of resources such as land and water;
- ▶ It reduces variability in yield to provide stable income for farmer and contributes to consistent food availability;
- ▶ It reduces pesticide handling by enabling a single application to seed in professional facilities;
- ▶ It provides an efficient and targeted chemical use and reduced treatment surface;
- ▶ It lowers the quantity of product use preserving and protecting both ground and surface water from the risk of contamination and drainage.



We care about safety: treatment process

The seed treatment process is highly professional with careful management of safety and environmental protection. Facilities are designed to ensure safe operating conditions and special equipment protects workers from accidental exposure to the active ingredients. Workers are trained to use the personal protective equipment they are provided with. The professional seed treatment process is certified by ESTA, the European Seed Treatment Assurance Scheme. The seed treatment technology is compatible with the principles of Integrated Pest Management Approach (IPM), by effectively and efficiently combating pest population's growth

How seed treatment relates to Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches

Integrated pest management (IPM) involves a careful consideration of all available plant protection methods and the subsequent integration of appropriate measures discouraging the development of harmful organisms. It fosters natural pest control mechanisms and reduces the use of plant protection products and other forms of intervention to levels that are economically and ecologically justified, minimizing risks to human health and the environment. IPM intensifies the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems.



Moreover, it prevents the risk of pest diseases and pathogens (e.g. soil-dwelling and aerial/air-borne pests and pathogens very often affecting plants at the seedling stage). Seed treatment helps combating pest and pathogen population growth with early control, crucial to prevent their populations from building up, otherwise the grower must resort to costly and extensive curative tools to protect the yield.