



Best Citriculture Practices for Injection

Technical Bulletin No. 45

Rectify™, a 95% oxytetracycline hydrochloride formulation from AgroSource, is approved by Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) under the Special Local Need (SLN) provisions within Section 24(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) for use as an injection for control or suppression Huanglongbing (HLB, aka citrus greening disease) in Florida citrus.¹

The following recommendations for injection of oxytetracycline hydrochloride [**Rectify™**] into Florida citrus trees are from UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research & Education Center.

- **Inject after harvest and after the main flowering period to prevent exposure to pollinators.**
- **Uptake and distribution of injected materials are driven by transpiration. Transpiration is the process of evaporation of water vapor on the leaf surface through the stomata. The loss of water vapor pulls water (and therefore injected materials) from the stem and roots upwards. Therefore, A) Inject when leaves are fully expanded (not during leaf flush) to ensure efficient uptake and distribution of injected materials. B) As much as possible, inject during mid- to late morning when trees are actively transpiring. Injections in the afternoon are likely less effective and may also increase the risk of phytotoxicity.**
- **Avoid injecting during the hottest time of the season (and day). There have been reports of phytotoxicity (manifested as leaf bronzing) when injections were conducted in August.**
- **Use a sharp brad-point drill bit for drilling the hole to minimize injury.**
- **Drill the hole no deeper than necessary. The inner (older) wood of the trunk is metabolically less active, and drilling results in more internal damage and dysfunction.**
- **Do not use any wound sealants or plugs/stoppers to seal the injection hole; these inhibit the trees' ability to effectively compartmentalize (heal) the wound.**
- **Remember that trees will become reinfected. OTC-HCl injections are not replacements for psyllid control.**
- **Although the label allows it, it is not advised to inject trees with a trunk diameter of less than 2.5 inches.**
- **Inject trees only once annually and leave a pre-harvest interval of at least 180 days.**
- **Follow label directions. The label is the law.**

NOTE: Users must have a copy of the Rectify™ SLN Section 24(c) label in their possession when making applications. Always read and follow label instructions. For more information, email info@AgroSource.net or visit us on the web www.AgroSource.net.

¹ EPA SLN: FL230001.

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