

# PRACTICE FACT SHEET

## TYPES OF INOCULANTS & THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN USING THEM



*Project Catalyst is a grower-led innovation project in sugarcane that was formed to explore, validate and broadly adopt management practice changes for productivity gains and improved water quality for the Great Barrier Reef.*



### Peat

#### Description

Finely ground sterilised peat containing rhizobia with adhesive.

#### Storage

Refrigerate at 4°C. Do not freeze.

#### Application

Create peat slurry by mixing with clean water. Seeds can be either coated before sowing or peat can be placed into porous bag and added to water for liquid injection. Sow within 5hrs.



### Liquid

#### Description

Suspension of rhizobia in protective liquid formulation with adhesive 'sticker' powder.

#### Storage

Refrigerate at 4°C. Do not freeze.

#### Application

Mix inoculant and adhesive with clean water and either apply directly to seed or add into inoculation tank for liquid injection. Sow within 5hrs of application.



### Freeze-dried

#### Description

Vial of soluble powder with additional protective agent. Activated when reconstituted with liquid.

#### Storage

Refrigerate at 4°C. Do not freeze.

#### Application

Mix freeze-dried powder with water and either apply directly to seed or add to inoculation tank for liquid injection. Sow within 5hrs.



# INOCULANT GUIDELINES

- Inoculants contain living bacteria. Protect them by storing and applying them according to the packet.
- Select the correct inoculant group for the type of legume.
- Apply inoculant and sow in the late evening to avoid high day time temperatures.
- Consider doubling the rate of inoculant for adverse conditions.
- Look for the Australian Inoculants Research Group (AIRG) Green Tick Logo on your inoculant for a quality guaranteed product.
- Take care with using clean, potable water when preparing suspensions and ensure your equipment and tanks are clean.



- Speak to an agronomist for more inoculant information. You can also view useful factsheets using the QR code.



# INOCULANT SELECTOR

Selecting the right inoculant group for each legume type is critical for ensuring you get nodulation and good nitrogen fixation.

Inoculant groups are determined by the strain of rhizobia that is specifically suited to a type of legume host.

If you are working with mixed legumes, remember to supply inoculant at a rate appropriate for the whole mix to ensure sufficient coverage.

Leftover inoculant can be stored for later use. Aim to remove air from the packet before sealing and storing refrigerated at 4°C. Make sure to use the inoculant before the labelled expiry date.

Inoculant group	Legume host plant
H	Soybean
I	Cowpea Mungbean
J	Pigeon Pea Lablab
M	Sunn Hemp* Velvet bean
N	Chickpea
P	Peanut Groundnut
Special (CB1717 strain)	Burgundy bean

\*If M strain inoculant is unavailable, group I is suitable for use with Sunn Hemp.



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation



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