# **Crop Production for Strawberries**

## GREENHOUSE PROGRAM

The goal of the PHC Agricultural Greenhouse and Field Program is to establish the partnership of mycorrhizal fungi and beneficial bacteria with the roots of strawberries grown in miniature container plugs. Under field conditions, this partnership can:

- Augment the roots with an extensive fungal absorption network
- Create a more extensive and efficient root system
- Optimize water and mineral nutrient absorption
- Reduce transplant losses
- Improves establishment and growth of plants grown from transplants
- Introduce rhizobacteria to fix nitrogen and increase mineral availability



#### INOCULATION OF POTTING MIX

PHC® Mini Plug: A highly concentrated, proprietary dry mix spore inoculant for establishing vesicular arbuscular mycorrhizal (VAM) symbiosis on roots of plants grown in small container plugs. Included within the Mini Plug mix is a patented, naturally-occurring fungal stimulant designed to enhance rapid colonization of plant roots by VA mycorrhizal fungi.

Inoculation of Potting Mix			
Product	Cell Size	Rate	
PHC Mini Plug	200-ml or less	2-Lbs. per cubic yard	
PHC Mini Plug	More than 200-ml	1-Lb. per cubic yard	

### **PLUG DRENCH TREATMENTS**

PHC<sup>®</sup> Colonize™ AG: This versatile product is a biological inoculant designed to promote the establishment of beneficial plantmicrobe soil interactions in the root zone. It utilizes a dual strategy acquired from nature.

- First, it is a microbial inoculant containing six species of rhizosphere bacteria that fix nitrogen, solubilize phosphorus and recycle mineral nutrients through the breakdown of organic matter
- Second, Colonize AG contains actinomycetes and Trichoderma fungi to provide a versatile mix of beneficial microbes
- Finally, Colonize AG contains Myconate® (formononetin) which increases the degree of root colonization by adding VA mycorrhizal fungi. Working together, the beneficial bacteria, fungi, actinomycetes and mycorrhizal fungi promote plant health and improve soil fertility and plant nutrition in a natural way

Yuccah<sup>o</sup>: An enhanced botanical wetting agent and soil penetrant that nourishes soil microbials while promoting uniform water movement through soil and soilless media mixes.

Plug Drench Treatment				
Product	Rate			
PHC Colonize AG	1-Lb. per 100 gallons of water			
Yuccah	12-oz. per 100 gallons of water			

PHC Colonize AG and Yuccah are applied in a combined product spray.
Use PHC Colonize AG and Yuccah as a drench treatment 1-2 times prior to shipment of transplants.



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## FIELD PROGRAM

### **PRE-PLANT ROOT DIP (Untreated Bareroot Plants)**

PHC° Grape and Berry Root Dip: A preplant root dip for inoculating bareroot strawberries with beneficial vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizal (VAM) fungi prior to field planting. It contains a "cocktail" mix of several superior species of VA endomycorrhizal fungi in a gel matrix.



PHC Grape & Berry Root Dip	Water	Number of Plants Treated
3-oz. Bag	0.5 gallon	Approx. 150-200
15-oz. Bag	2.5 gallons	Approx. 750-1000

Before planting, dip the roots of the seedlings into the mix so that the roots are coated with gel. For container seedlings, gently shake off some of the excess loose dirt from the roots before dipping. Transplant as soon as possible after dipping.

#### FIELD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

PHC<sup>®</sup> Colonize™ AG: This versatile product is a biological inoculant designed to promote the establishment of beneficial plantmicrobe soil interactions in the root zone. It utilizes a dual strategy acquired from nature.

- First, it is a microbial inoculant containing numerous strains of rhizosphere bacteria that fix nitrogen, solubilize
  phosphorus and recycle mineral nutrients through the breakdown of organic matter
- · Second, Colonize AG contains actinomycetes and Trichoderma fungi to provide a versatile mix of beneficial microbes
- Finally, Colonize AG contains Myconate® (formononetin) which increases the degree of root colonization by adding VA
  mycorrhizal fungi. Working together, the beneficial bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi promote plant health and
  improve soil fertility and plant nutrition in a natural way

Yuccah\*: An enhanced botanical wetting agent and soil penetrant that nourishes soil microbials and promotes uniform water movement through soil and soilless media mixes.

Plant Water Treatment			
Product	Rate		
PHC Colonize AG	1-Lb. per 100 gallons of water		
Yuccah	12-oz. per 100 gallons of water		

Apply Colonize AG and Yuccah in the plant water at time of transplanting.



Drip Irrigation Treatment			
Product	Rate		
PHC Colonize AG	½-Lb. per 7,260 linear feet		
Yuccah	12-oz. per 7,260 linear feet		

Mix thoroughly to dissolve. To avoid settling of suspended materials in the concentrate during irrigation, occasional stirring is necessary. Remove all in-line screens finer than 170 mesh. For best results, repeat application throughout the season at 2 to 3 week intervals.



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