

The Tefen Company: Continuous proportional fertilization in an organic cultivation application

With the increasing awareness of the advantages of a healthier lifestyle, without exposure to various chemicals and poisons, there has been an increase in recent years, both in Israel and in the World in general, in the demand for foods grown organically. The export market for organic food is characterized by its consistent and continuous demand and its high prices.

Growing organically demands from the grower expert knowledge along with the ability to measure up to technological challenges both in the hydraulic field as well as with the physiology of the plant.

Take for example, the use of melon plants which are grafted on to a pumpkin rootstock, in order to strengthen the plant and its resistance to disease, presenting the opportunity to widen the planting distance whilst maintaining the yield per acre.

One of the most recent developments in the field of organic fertilization is the proportional injector from Tefen known as the MixRite TF-25.

Mr. Moshe Yair, a well known grower based in the South of Israel, close to the Dead Sea emphasized the advantages of the MixRite TF-25 as follows

“With the switch to organic cultivation several years ago, I have begun to achieve really encouraging professional results with melon cultivation, as well as with assorted spices and peppers. The quality of my yield is consistently very high and ideal for export, producing double the profits that I was used to previously”

“In order to receive maximum yield and income, you need to provide your crops with the best possible conditions. Tefen’s MixRite TF-25 proportional fertilization injectors are capable of injecting, according to the nature of the crop, between 0.1 to 5% fertilizer (at a rate of from 25 to 1250 liter per hour, according to the application.) The injector is proportional, permitting a number of openings according to water flow and pressure situations, while preserving a constant level of fertilizer injection. Consistent irrigation during all the daylight hours with a constant rate of fertilizer injection during the entire irrigation schedule provides me with the best results and the highest quality yield” Moshe enthuses.

Service - Above all

Moshe Yair is farming in the Dead Sea area in an arid desert climate where the soil is salty. He makes a special reference to Tefen’s level of support “When you cultivate crops in areas such as where I am situated, far away from the main population centers, you are really dependant on support, and we never take it for granted. Any time that I am faced with a problem which requires treatment on site, Tefen’s support crew arrives on the scene-and always within 24 hours of my call.”



Organic Cultivation in the lowest place on Earth



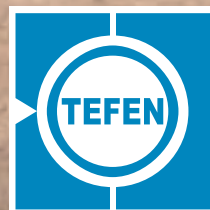
Proportioning Dosing Injector TF-25 M³/Hour

The advantages of the MixRite TF-25 injector

- Based on a stand alone design that does not require constant attention.
- Simple to set, and exact to a scale of up to 25 grams per cubic meter.
- MixRite injectors do not require batteries or electric power to operate them.
- Opposed to other pumps available on the market, the TF-25 does not release water during its operation. This advantage prevents a build up of unwanted mud around the irrigation head, and prevents unwelcome mosquitoes and flies.
- Provide consistent service for months and even years.(dependant on water quality)

As a result of hooking up a MixRite TF-25 to an irrigation system, it is possible, without the necessity of adding additional outlet taps to provide the exact fertilizer quantity. Not only that, the computer can be programmed to cut off the flow of fertilizer intermittently to allow a system back flush or to allow a reading of the pump’s pulse rate.

The majority of organic fertilizer is delivered in powder form. In order to inject the fertilizer into the irrigation system, it has to be diluted in water. For this reason it is difficult if not impossible to arrive at a high density of fertilizer within the injection tanks. The MixRite injectors are capable of injecting fertilizer at levels of up to 5% of the total quantity of water in the tank, a feature which allows the TF-25 to be especially suitable in the handling of organic fertilizers. In light of the developments in these markets, 20% of the cultivators in the southern region of Israel close to the Dead Sea have switched their methods of cultivation to become organically based. Most of their yields are geared towards exports. Growers from the region are inclined to visit trade exhibitions looking for new clients for their produce as well as gaining and absorbing the technological knowledge required in this field growing and highly specific niche in the market.



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