



Strawberries

Liquid seaweeds have been used in strawberry production for many years by a number of growers in throughout Australia. However, there have been significant advances in liquid seaweed production in recent years which have made their use much more attractive. The price of liquid seaweeds has been drastically reduced by local production using newer technology specifically designed for Australian Bull Kelp.

Liquid seaweeds owe the major part of their beneficial effects to plant growth regulators or hormones. Australian bull kelp is higher in these substances than many Northern hemisphere seaweeds and therefore is a good starting material in the production of liquid seaweed.

Observed benefits from use of liquid seaweed in strawberry production include;

- * increase in fruit set and yield
- * increase in shelf life
- * increase in frost tolerance
- * increase in resistance to fungal attack.

Application rates

For increased frost protection apply **Cosy Wrap** or **Frost Guard** at 3L/ha every 10-12 days as a foliar spray in the frost danger period.

(See the Frost Protection leaflet for more information)

For normal application for increased fruit set and yield apply at 5L/ha every two weeks. If using dripper system use **Superfine** or **Superfine Premium**. For foliar spray use **Superfine**, **Superfine Premium** or **Gold 100**.

To increase resistance to fungal attack, spray with **Gold 100** at 8-10 L/ha as soon as any fungal attack is evident, and repeat in two weekly intervals.

To improve keeping quality, use **Superfine** in dripper system at 10L/ha two weeks prior and one week prior to harvest.

In hydroponic systems use **Superfine** as a nutrient additive at a rate of 1:1000 or 1:1500. Root burn may occur if the concentration of **Superfine** is too high so it is important to thoroughly mix the **Superfine** nutrient blend.

Fair Dinkum Fertilizers **Superfine** products have been filtered to 100 micron and are suitable for dripper systems. **Superfine** Liquid Seaweeds are slightly acidic and are compatible with many more nutritional additives than most liquid seaweed formulations available, and this enables nutritional blends to be fed through dripper systems.

Some growers use a mixture of liquid seaweed and soluble humate (sometimes referred to as humic acid). Our product equivalent is called **MATE**. It should be applied as a foliar spray or soil drench but not through the dripper system. It may stain fruit if applied late in the growth stages. It is particularly beneficial in light soils as it helps retain nutrients in the soil.

	Sprayer	Drippers	Comments
SUPERFINE	Fine	Yes	Made from dried seaweed and slightly acidic.
SUPERFINE PREMIUM	Fine	Yes	Made from dried seaweed. Contains added nutrients, NPK & trace elements.
GOLD 100	Fine	No	Made from fresh seaweed. Filtered to 100 microns.
MATE	Coarse	No	Made from fresh seaweed. Filtered to 600 microns. Contains added humate.



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Fair Dinkum Fertilizers

manufacturers of quality seaweed products