

User's instructions for the Mini-Airbug

The Mini-Airbug hand-held blower, which distributes predatory mites and other predators quickly and evenly, was developed especially for the rapid and efficient distribution of the natural enemies of pests on ornamental plants and vegetable crops. The Mini-Airbug is extremely flexible in use: it can be used to apply predatory mites to the entire crop, or to a specific area. The extremely handy appliance is ideally suited to the application of a variety of natural enemies in one operation, thereby offering you labour savings of up to 80%.

Equipment:

The full set of equipment is comprised of the following:

1. the blower
2. 2 batteries (6V)
3. 2 chargers
4. 1 carry case for the battery
5. set of dosage pots (7 pots)
6. 2 lids for the pots
7. 1 non-perforated pot used to prepare (mix) different products
8. set of measures



Principle:

- The rotating dosage pot and special fan discharge the carrier material containing the natural enemies uniformly over the crop.
- The fan's air current distributes the material uniformly to a distance of between 1.5 and 2 metres from the blower.
- The unique design ensures that the natural enemies are not harmed by the blower.
- Mixtures of various natural enemies can be distributed in *one* operation.

Preparations:



Battery:

1. Make sure that all batteries are fully charged. Charge the batteries solely with the chargers supplied with the blower.



2. **Keep the batteries in the chargers when they are not in use!**
(The chargers are trickle chargers and, consequently, the batteries are not repeatedly discharged and recharged: they are trickle charged. Keeping the batteries in the chargers when they are not in use is better for the batteries and will increase their service life.)



3. A fully-charged battery can be used for about 1 hour.

Preparations:



1. Calculate the area to be treated and determine how many bottles or parts of bottles you wish to apply in each session.



2. Select the required dosage pot. This depends on the speed at which you walk through the greenhouse with the Mini-Airbug and the approximate number of predators to be applied per m².
 - # The amount of carrier material and the number of predators applied per m² increase with the size of the holes.
 - # You can influence the distribution by adjusting your walking speed.
 - # You can adjust the dosage by sealing off part of the holes with adhesive tape.
 The composition of the carrier material determines the appropriate walking speed: in relative terms, wood chippings fall fastest through the holes in the dosage pot, followed by vermiculite and bran.



3. Make sure that you do not cover an excessive distance in one session: it is better to fill the dosage pot with smaller quantities, for shorter sessions.



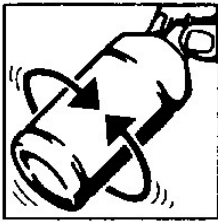
4. The measures supplied with the appliance offer you a simple means of measuring out $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ a bottle and, where relevant, topping up the quantity from a part-filled bottle with material from a new bottle.



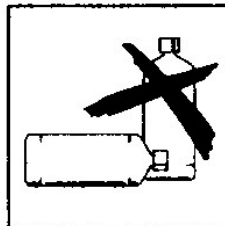
5. Allow the products to gradually come to temperature before using the blower (for example, in the packhouse). This prevents condensation on a sudden change in temperature that could result in the carrier material becoming lumpy.
6. Before opening the bottles give the caps a firm tap with an implement (such as a screwdriver). The predators on the cap will then fall back into the bottle. The remaining predators in a nearly empty bottle can be retrieved by tapping the bottom of the bottle with an implement.



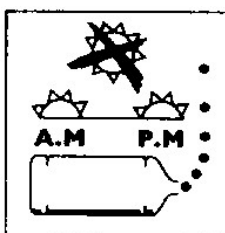
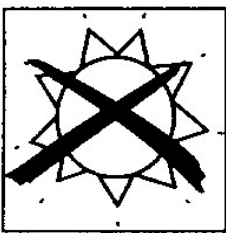
7. Always rotate the bottle carefully before opening it. This ensures that the predators are distributed uniformly through the carrier material (see the label on the bottle).



8. Always store the bottles horizontally.



9. Do not leave the bottles in the sun; store them, for example, in an insulated box until you are ready to use them. Whenever possible apply the natural enemies to the crop during the cooler hours of the day.



Method of use:

1. Put the battery in the carry case and fasten the case around your waist.



2. Connect the blower's cable to the battery.



3. Empty the required number of bottles containing the predators to be applied to the crop (one or more types of predators) in the mixing pot and close the lid. Carefully mix the contents thoroughly by gently rotating and shaking the pot. Prepare successive batches of sufficient mixture for a limited area and store bottles containing remnants in an insulated box.



4. Empty the mixture into the dosage pot **above the crop**.



5. Fit the dosage pot to the blower's revolving head.



6. Start the Mini-Airbug by pushing one or both switches and walk at a constant speed from the path in the middle of the greenhouse to the wall. Turn round and walk back to the path. Always hold the appliance horizontally when the blower is being used to ensure that:
- the material in the pot falls into the centre of the fan's outlet.
 - the fan blows the mixture over the crop at the correct angle. This is required to achieve a uniform distribution. In the beginning it will be advisable to note the time required to complete a circuit (main path – wall – main path) and adjust your walking speed to increasingly approach the required distribution.

The pot motor can be started without the blower by pushing only the top switch. Consequently, you can opt to use the pot to distribute the predators without the blower running! The material then falls vertically onto the crop and is mixed thoroughly – guaranteeing an appropriate



dosage and distribution.



The blower can be started by pushing the second switch.

Safety:

- Do not insert objects or parts of the body through the fan's grille. A rotating fan can cause damage

These user's instructions have been compiled with the greatest care and will be updated regularly. However, Koppert B.V. cannot be held liable for any losses arising from inaccuracies and/or omissions in the user's instructions.

Maintenance/storage:

- Store the Mini-Airbug and accessories in a dry and dust-free area. The Mini-Airbug can be stored in the case supplied with the appliance.
- **Always store the batteries in the chargers when not in use!!**

