



Holistic Spray Recipe

2343 Gerber Rd., Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0
Phone: 519-804-6060, Fax: 519-804-5750
Email: sales@silvercreeknursery.ca
www.silvercreeknursery.ca

Want to keep your fruit trees healthy and happy without resorting to chemical pesticides and fertilizer? This holistic spray, adapted from Michael Phillips' book *The Holistic Orchard* will start you off on the right path. We apply this to all of our orchard trees and nursery stock 3 times per year. Once in April (at green tip), and then a month later in May, and again a month later in June. We have found it helpful in reducing apple scab, cherry leaf spot, and other fungal problems, as well as reducing insect damage. We highly recommend the holistic spray from our own experience. We have also completely stopped using lime sulphur and other "organic" chemicals since adopting the holistic spray, simply because they are no longer necessary.

Ingredients:

Cold-pressed, raw neem oil	(www.neemresource.com)
Cold-pressed, raw fish hydrolysate	(available at Silver Creek Nursery)
Liquid Kelp or Seaweed	(available at Silver Creek Nursery)
Effective Microbes	(gardenerspantry.ca)
Unsulfured Blackstrap Molasses if activating your own Effective Microbes	(any organic food store)
Mild detergent or natural dish soap	(any organic food store)

Step 1: 10 Days Before Spraying - Activating the Effective Microbes

You can skip this step if you buy your effective microbes already activated. For larger batches of spray mix (50 gal. and more), you can buy mother culture and activate as follows:

1. For 400L (100 US gal.) of spray mix, fill a clean 4L (1 US gal.) plastic jug 2/3 full of hot non-chlorinated water 120-125F.
2. Add 3/4 cup unsulfured blackstrap molasses. Shake to dissolve.
3. Add 3/4 cup mother culture. Shake well.
4. Fill remainder of jug with lukewarm water and place away from bright light.
5. Keep at 90-95F for 2-3 days.
6. Room temperature or a bit warmer (72-78F) for next few days.
7. Earthy smell indicates ready. Sour smell indicates failed activation.

Step 2: Spray Day!

WARNING! Use only an agitating sprayer to avoid plugging your sprayer with neem.

1. Choose a time when direct sunlight is limited and when air temperatures are cooler. Early morning and evening are best.
2. Start filling your sprayer with warm water to keep the neem dissolved.
3. Add ingredients as follows:

For 5 Litres of Spray Mix:

25 mL neem
1 mL soap
100 mL fish hydrolysate
50 mL effective microbes
12 mL liquid kelp or seaweed

For 20 Litres of Spray Mix:

100 mL neem
4 mL soap
400 mL fish hydrolysate
200 mL effective microbes
50 mL liquid kelp or seaweed

For 25 Gallons of Spray Mix:

1/8 gal. neem
1 Tablespoon soap
1/2 gal. fish hydrolysate
1/4 gal. effective microbes
1/16 gal. liquid kelp or seaweed

For 50 Gallons of Spray Mix:

1/4 gal. neem
2 Tablespoons soap
1 gal. fish hydrolysate
1/2 gal. effective microbes
1/8 gal. liquid kelp or seaweed

4. Spray on trees to the point of run-off.
5. Flush your sprayer thoroughly before any residual neem solidifies inside it!