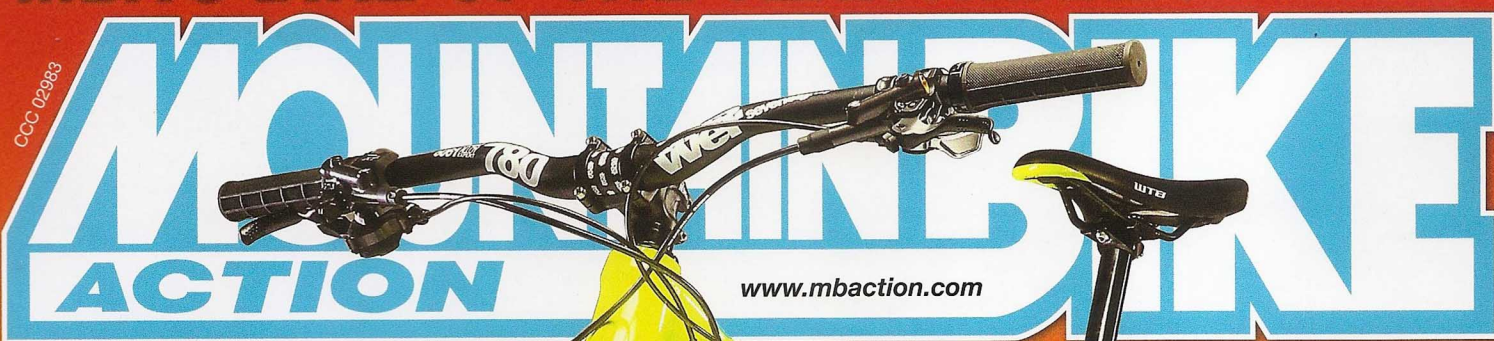


MBA'S BIKE OF THE YEAR AWARD: THE BEST OF THE BEST



TIRE SEALANT SHOOTOUT: CURE THE FLAT-TIRE BLUES

GRIPPING STORY: ELIMINATE TIRED HANDS

JANUARY 2017

Effetto Mariposa

Caffélatex tire sealant from Effetto Mariposa is a carefully formulated latex-based sealant with microscopic particles. The ultra-small particles clump together to seal punctures and are claimed to work well with thin-walled tires. Caffélatex was designed to turn into a foam during tire rotations to allow better coverage around the inside of the tire (as opposed to liquids that are slushed around the outer diameter due to centrifugal force). Caffélatex will then return to a liquid form after sitting for about 15 minutes. Effetto Mariposa sells a 1000-milliliter bottle (about 34 ounces) of Caffélatex for \$30.

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TIRE SEALANT BRAND	Manufacturer's recommended sealant amount	All tires set up at 40 PSI, 2 weeks before puncture test	Time to seal punctures in seconds. All tires were reset to 30 PSI for start of puncture test. No pressure was added during testing.			
	For 27.5 x 2.2"	Air pressure after 2 weeks	Thumbtack hole	Nail hole	Small Screwdriver	Large Screwdriver
Bontrager	1.7 oz.	30 PSI	33 Seconds	Leaked to flat	Already flat	Already flat
e*thirteen	4.0 oz.	30 PSI	12 Seconds	10 Seconds	Leaked to flat	Already flat
Effetto Mariposa	2.0 oz.	26 PSI	10 Seconds	10 Seconds	Leaked to flat	Already flat
Orange Seal	3.0 oz.	28 PSI	11 Seconds	14 Seconds	8 Seconds	Slow leak to flat
Schwalbe	2.0 oz.	29 PSI	9 Seconds	13 Seconds	8 Seconds	Leaked to flat
Slime	3.0 oz.	29 PSI	21 Seconds	Leaked to flat	Already flat	Already flat
Stan's NoTubes	2.0 oz.	28 PSI	10 Seconds	26 Seconds	8 Seconds	Leaked to flat
TruckerCo	2.7 oz.	29 PSI	9 Seconds	14 Seconds	29 Seconds	Leaked to flat

FIELD TEST



1. Orange Seal Endurance
2. Bontrager TLR
3. Effetto Mariposa
4. TruckerCo Cream
5. Schwable Doc Blue
6. Stan's NoTubes
7. E*thirteen Tire Plasma
8. Slime Pro

TIRE SEALANT SHOOTOUT

Riders love searching for new technology that will help make them faster. Unfortunately, many upgrades are expensive and offer only a slight performance gain. Thankfully, however, there are some inexpensive upgrades that can greatly increase your bike's performance. Any bike shop will tell you that the easiest and least-expensive upgrade is to convert your bike to tubeless. A tubeless setup is essentially a bicycle rim and tire that no longer needs an inner tube to hold air. A liquid sealant is used instead of the tube to ensure the system is airtight and also acts as a safety net in case of a small puncture out on the trail. Today, there are numerous types of tire sealant to choose from, and it can be complicated to figure out which option is best for you. So, the MBA crew decided to do the legwork for you and put the most popular sealants to the test. Special thanks goes out to Ridefast and Arisun for supplying us with rims and tires so we could perform a fair and consistent test.



Matching sets: We would like to thank Arisun and Ridefast Racing for providing us with the rims and tires used in this test. All tires were harmed during our testing process.