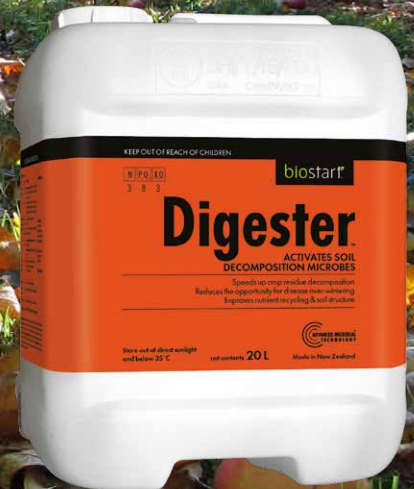


# Digester

## Technical Sheet Grapes, Pipfruit & Nuts



**Digester is a soil microbial stimulator that activates beneficial naturally occurring saprophytic microbes in your soil that are responsible for plant material decomposition.**

### How does Digester work?

**Digester** is used to promote the rapid breakdown of leaf litter, cover crops, old roots and post-harvest crop trash in horticultural crops.

Applied directly to residual plant material, **Digester** activates decomposition microbes already present in the soil.

**Digester** reduces disease on the following crop by completely decomposing the plant material that plant pathogens use as a host over winter.

### The benefits of using Digester:

- Accelerates crop residue, pruning and leaf litter decomposition to return nutrients and organic matter to the soil efficiently
- Improves plant nutrition for the next crop
- Reduces disease overwintering
- Increases the soil's cation exchange capacity (CEC)
- Improves the water holding capacity of the soil
- Improved soil aeration and root growth by breaking down old roots in mature orchards and vineyards.



### Direction for use

- Apply **Digester** directly on to leaf litter, prunings and other crop residues.
- Requires soil moisture/rain and active soil biology.
- **Digester** can be tank mixed with herbicides, fertigation nutrients and suspension fertiliser.
- **Digester** can be applied through fertigation systems and through overhead irrigation systems fitted with an appropriate system.
- In low organic matter soils, low fertility soils or after drought add technical grade ammonium sulphate at 30 kg/ha.
- For best results avoid applying **Digester** in the heat of the day.
- Treated crop residues should be lightly incorporated where possible in order to maintain moisture.

**For specific crop recommendations contact your local BioStart representative.**

| Crop  | Timing  | Application Rate   | Recommended Co-Application  |
|---|---|--|---|
| Grapes  | Autumn (leaf fall) or at mulching.                  | <b>2 L/ha</b> in a minimum of 200 L of water applied over leaf litter and prunings to the soil. <b>For heavy disease over-wintering, cut-out diseased orchards, compacted or water-logged soil: 4 L/ha</b> in a minimum of 200 L of water. | <b>To reduce application cost:</b> co-apply with commonly used post-harvest herbicides or liquid fertiliser. Digester can be applied via ground sprays, overhead sprinklers or fertigation systems. |
| Pipfruit, Stonefruit, Kiwifruit, Citrus, and Avocados | Autumn/ Post-harvest; Post-pruning and/or leaf fall | <b>4 L/ha</b> in a minimum of 200 L of water applied over leaf litter and prunings to the soil. For heavy disease overwintering, cut-out diseased orchards, compacted or water-logged soil: <b>6 L/ha</b> in a minimum of 200 L of water.  | For high crop residue levels a nitrogen source may be recommended to further assist decomposition.  |
| Nuts  | Prior to harvest                                    | <b>Low organic matter soils fertigation programme: 2 L/ha</b> via fertigation or with the last weed spray prior to harvest. <b>Standard fertigation programme: 4 L/ha</b> via fertigation or with the last weed spray prior to harvest.    | Call BioStart for further information. <b>Pack sizes available: 10 and 20 litre</b>   |