



Inoculant Handling Tips

Inoculants can help to reduce shrink and spoilage, but they need to be applied alive to be effective. Here's how to get the most back from your inoculant:

- Step 1 Store inoculants in a cool place.** If the label says to refrigerate or freeze, then do so. Avoid freeze-thaw cycles because they can kill the bugs.
- Step 2 Take care during transport.** Avoid direct sunlight or heat (such as on the dashboard, on a pickup truck bed or in a hot vehicle).
- Step 3 Use cool water.** Feel the water to make sure it is cool. If you use a hose to fill the tank, let it run for a bit so that the water is cool.
- Step 4 Keep it flowing.** Calibrate the applicator properly and check the level in the tank every two hours. If the level of inoculant hasn't changed, find the problem and fix it.
- Step 5 Keep it cool.** Take the temperature or feel the mixture frequently to ensure that the inoculant/water mixture is staying cool in the tank. If it heats up (more than 90 degrees), cool it down (such as with a frozen soda bottle). Avoid using ice because this will dilute the inoculant.
- Step 6 Use it up.** Use the solution within 24 hours of mixing with water.

Bottom line: To get the most from your inoculant, keep it cool and make sure you are applying it at the proper rate.