

Silwet L-77^{*} Spray Adjuvant

for agricultural applications

Product Description

Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant is a superspreading surfactant based on a trisiloxane ethoxylate. Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant lowers the surface tension of spray solutions, beyond that which is achievable with conventional adjuvants.

Typically, Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant (@ 0.1 wt %) gives an aqueous surface tension of 20.5 mN/m. On the other hand, an octylphenol ethoxylate containing 10 EO units (a commonly used nonionic surfactant) at 1.0 wt % gives a surface tension of only 30 mN/m.

The bottom line? Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant helps lower the aqueous surface tension more effectively than conventional spray adjuvants.

Key Features and Typical Benefits

- Superspreader
- Promotes spray volume reduction
- Promotes rapid uptake of agrochemicals (rainfastness)
- Improves spray coverage
- Nonionic
- Meets requirements of EPA 40CFR§180.910

Typical Physical Properties

Surface Tension (0.1%, mN/m) ^(a)	20.5
Cloud Point (0.1 wt%), °C	<10
Viscosity, cPs @ 25°C	20
Specific Gravity @ 25/25°C	1.007
Flash Point, ^(b) °C	116

(a) Surface Tension by Wilhelmy Plate Method.

(b) Pensky-Martens Closed Cup, ASTM Method D93

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Product Description (continued)

Because Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant is a superspreading surfactant, the contact angle of spray solutions on leaf surfaces is reduced, leading to an increase in spray coverage (Figure 1).

Additionally, under specific conditions, Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant promotes rapid uptake of agrochemicals into plants via stomatal infiltration. Spray solutions taken into plants in this way become rainfast, thereby improving application reliability (Figure 2).

Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant is nonionic in nature, making it useful with a broad range of agrochemical formulations.

How to Use

In Agrochemical Formulations

Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant may be used as a component in agrochemical formulations. Although organosilicone surfactants are subject to hydrolysis under acidic or basic conditions, optimum performance is achieved by buffering the formulation to pH 6.5 -7.5. Additionally, it is recommended that Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant be used at a concentration of at least 5%, based on the total formulation.

As A Tank Mix Adjuvant

Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant, when used as a tank-side adjuvant may be used to improve spray coverage, improve uptake or to allow for a reduction in spray volume. Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant is most effective as a tank-side adjuvant when spray mixtures are 1) within a pH range of 5-8, and 2) used within 24 hours of preparation.

High spray volumes, coupled with high surfactant rates, are not required to achieve sufficient coverage with Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant. In fact, Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant may provide adequate coverage in many low volume spray applications at rates between 0.025% and 0.1%.

Potential Applications

Silwet L-77 spray adjuvant has been used successfully in spray applications globally. Typical applications include:

Application	Typical Use Rate ^(a)
Plant Growth Regulators	0.025% to 0.05%
Herbicide	0.025% to 0.15%
Insecticide	0.025% to 0.1%
Fungicide	0.015% to 0.05%
Fertilizers and Micronutrients	0.015% to 0.1%

(a) Note: use rates are dependent on crop, agrochemical and spray volume requirements.

Figure 1: Spreading

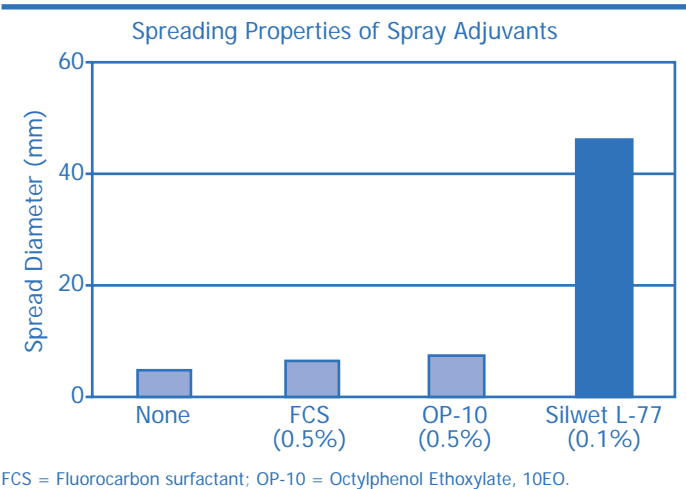
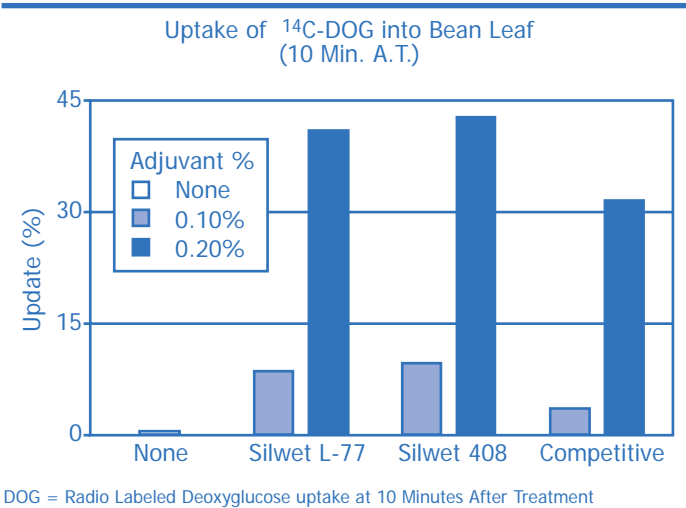


Figure 2: Uptake



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Patent Status

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Principal Locations

Regional Information	Phone	Fax
North America World Headquarters 187 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897, USA	800.295.2392	607.754.7517
Latin America Rodovia Eng. Constâncio Cintra, Km 78,5 Itatiba, SP – 13255-700 Brazil	+ 55.11.4534.9650	+ 55.11.4534.9660
Europe, Middle East, Africa and India Leverkusen Germany	00.800.4321.1000 + 31.164.293.276	+ 31.164.241750
Pacific Akasaka Park Building 5-2-20 Akasaka Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-6112 Japan	+ 81.3.5544.3100	+ 81.3.5544.3101
Customer Service Centers		
North America Charleston, WV 25314, USA E-mail: cs-na.silicones@momentive.com	Specialty Fluids 800.523.5862	304.746.1654
	UA, Silanes, Resins, and Specialties 800.334.4674	304.746.1623
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Latin America Argentina and Chile Brazil Mexico and Central America Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Caribbean E-mail: cs-la.silicones@momentive.com	+ 54.11.4862.9544 + 55.11.4534.9650 + 52.55.5899.5135 + 58.212.285.2149	+ 54.11.4862.9544 + 55.11.4534.9660 + 52.55.5899.5138 + 58.212.285.2149
Europe, Middle East, Africa and India E-mail: cs-eur.silicones@momentive.com	00.800.4321.1000 + 31.164.293.276	+ 31.164.241750
Pacific E-mail: cs-ap.silicones@momentive.com Japan China Korea Singapore	+ 81.276.20.6182 + 86.21.5050.4666 (ext. 1523) + 82.2.6201.4600 + 65.6220.7022	
Worldwide Hotline Worldwide Web	800.295.2392 + 607.786.8131 www.momentive.com	+ 607.786.8309

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