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# METAREX<sup>®</sup>

ALL WEATHER SLUG AND SNAIL BAIT

## Metarex<sup>®</sup> & Metarex Micro: Increased Options for Slug control!

Metarex<sup>®</sup> all weather slug and snail bait and Metarex Micro all weather slug bait were developed specifically for agricultural uses in Australia.

Metarex is a true and highly palatable bait that is attractive to slugs and snails, regardless of the weather. With a uniform size of 2.5 x 2.7 mm, Metarex has excellent ballistics for even spreading. Metarex Micro has all of the formulation benefits of Metarex but with a smaller uniform size of 2.2 x 2.2 mm.

Significant volumes of Metarex in the past have been applied with seed in a range of crops every year and, when used in conjunction with a broadcast application, this technique provided optimal control. For small-seeded crops when slugs are present, the option is now available to apply new Metarex Micro mixed with the seed.

Metarex Micro is also a true and highly palatable bait and has been developed and registered specifically for direct drill situations to protect germinating seed against slugs for up to 10 days. This is of particular benefit with the Black Keeled Slug which lives in the soil and can consume germinating seeds; placing Metarex Micro directly in the drill line will optimise control of slugs feeding from below and along the drill line.

So which product should a grower use and when, all depends on the seeding technique.

In the event of an open or partially open furrow, Metarex Micro should be mixed with the seed to control slugs during germination, and then followed by a broadcast treatment of Metarex to control surface-active slugs and snails before they attack the seedlings.

Where seed beds are firm or furrows closed and compacted, a broadcast application of Metarex will be required before or at sowing,



Metarex is easily consumed



Metarex Micro  
with Canola Seed



Metarex Micro  
with Wheat Seed

with further subsequent treatment required if slug or snail pressure warrants.

If the slug population present in the paddock is Grey Field Slug, a broadcast application of Metarex is the most appropriate control method.

### Know the slug species & behaviour

The Black Keeled Slug (*Milax gagates*) tends to burrow and mainly feed below the surface on germinating seeds, although it can also feed on the surface. Easily identified, the Black Keeled Slug is usually black in colour with a sharp ridge down its back. When disturbed its body contracts.

The Grey Field Slug (*Deroceras reticulatum*) is predominantly a surface feeder and will eat plants down to the soil surface or consume areas of foliage. It is easily identified by its light colour, which ranges from light grey to fawn with dark brown markings. When disturbed the Grey Field Slug releases distinctive milky-white mucus.

Paddock monitoring early morning or evening is essential to determine the presence of slugs and snails.

As with all slug or snail bait applications, a follow-up baiting may be necessary as the crop develops. Snail and slug control is rarely a once-per-season application. Paddock monitoring early morning or evening is essential to determine the presence of slugs and snails.

In summary, Metarex products now support an ever greater range of options for the grower, taking into consideration soil type, time of damage, pest type and population. These include direct drilling Metarex Micro and broadcasting Metarex when slugs are present. The option also exists to repeat broadcast applications of Metarex.



Immature slug eating Metarex

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