

Spray nozzle information

Spray nozzles are constructed to a set of standards defined by The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE – formerly known as ASAE).

When calibrating, the Nursery and Garden Industry Australia (2013) summarised the terminology on nozzles against droplet sizes in this table:

ASAE category	Colour code	VMD of droplet cloud ¹
Extremely fine (XF)	Purple	< 60 µm (microns)
Very Fine (VF)	Red	61-144 µm
Fine (F)	Orange	145-235 µm
Medium (M)	Yellow	236-340 µm
Coarse (C)	Blue	341-403 µm
Very Coarse (VC)	Green	404-502 µm
Extremely Coarse (XC)	White	503-664 µm
Ultra Coarse (UC)	Black	>500 µm

¹ The spray cloud produced from a given spray nozzle usually consists of a wide variety of droplet sizes. VMD or Volume Median Diameter is the average droplet size by volume of the spray cloud.

For further assistance, the Nursery and Garden Industry Australia (2013) also provides this General Guide:

Product type	Spray classification	Comment
Insecticides		
Contact	Fine - Medium	If using the finer end of the droplet spectrum.
Systemic	Fine - Medium	If using medium, stay at the finer end.
Fungicides		
Protectant	Very Fine - Fine	Be aware of droplet spectrum and evaporation.
Curative/eradicator	Fine - Medium	If using medium, stay at the finer end.
Herbicides		
Soil applied	Coarse	Use appropriate water volumes to ensure coverage.
Contact	Medium	Medium preferred where conditions allow.
Systemic	Coarse but watch weather conditions	