

WINTERIZING YOUR SELF-PROPELLED SPRAYER

ALTORFER
Ag Products



Here are some essential guidelines on how to service and store your self-propelled sprayer for the winter:

- Clean the machine thoroughly to prevent premature rust from fertilizers and crop protection products.
- Touch up any chips, scratches and rusted areas with the appropriate protective paint.
- Replace any damaged or missing decals and safety signs.
- Grease all service points after cleaning.
- Flush the spray system with water.
- Clean the liquid system thoroughly.

Below are additional guidelines if you anticipate below freezing temperatures:

- Put an antifreeze solution of 55% propylene glycol and 45% water in the main product tank and rinse tank.
- Before flushing with propylene glycol and water, put plugs in all boom nozzle bodies except the outside nozzle bodies for each pipe of boom plumbing.
- Install a hose with a fitting in open-nozzle bodies and run the hose to a container for proper collection and reuse.
- Open and close the tank sump valve and reload valve several times before operating the liquid pump.
- Operate engine at idle speed. Make sure the tank valve is open, increase engine speed to 1,500 rpm and engage liquid pump.
- Turn on controller. Increase or decrease the flow after you have engaged the liquid pump.
- Open sparger valve completely for several minutes to fully mix antifreeze.
- Open the by-pass valve to flush the by-pass line. Close by-pass valve.
- Open the clean water valve to draw antifreeze solution from the rinse tank and properly flush the clean water lines.
- Open tank rinse valve to flush the tank rinse line. Close the tank rinse valve.
- If equipped with the chemical eductor option, open chemical eductor valve to flush line going to the eductor. Operate each function of the eductor to properly flush all lines. Close eductor valve.

- Move boom spray controls on and off a number of times to flush pressure plumbing. Collect solution that comes out of end outlets on boom for use again. Move boom spray controls to off.
- Disengage the liquid pump. Open the reload valve and let the solution flow into a container until the tank is empty.
- Pivot down each end of the boom by hand to let the remaining liquid flow out.
- Leave all valves half open.
- Open hand rinse valve on safety water tank.
- Remove product line strainer.
- Remove boom strainers if installed.
- Disconnect all hose quick couplers to remove any remaining liquid.
- Remove plug from bottom of product pump.
- Remove drain plug from rinse tank.
- Remove plug from bottom of boom manifolds.
- Store loose parts [strainers, nozzles, plugs, etc.] in a labeled container.
- Open the drain valve on the bottom of the foam markers and let the liquid flow out.
- Remove the control console if specified by the console manufacturer.

Whether you are a professional applicator or grower, following these guidelines will ensure that your application equipment is properly stored for the winter. Then, when the spring application season rolls around, you can focus on things like fluid changes, simple checks of light operation, tire inflation and controller calibration. You'll be up and running a lot faster with fewer delays and headaches if you have put your sprayer away properly for the off season.



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