

Vapam[®] and K-Pam[™], Making The Difference With Precise Application

Vapam and K-Pam are broad-spectrum soil biocides that can be used to control a wide range of soil-borne pests. As a pest control tool, Vapam and K-Pam are cost effective as well as a technically viable alternative to methyl bromide for controlling soil pests in specialty and high value crops.

While no single material appears to be the successor to methyl bromide, combinations of fumigants are showing the most promise. Part of the combination solution includes Vapam. Vapam and K-Pam in partnership with Telone and/or chloropicrin has been applied with success. Properly applied and incorporated, these combinations successfully control most soil pests. Correct application is the key to success.

Research has indicated metam is a potential alternative to methyl bromide. Its' lower cost and wide range of activity makes it a strong potential alternative candidate. However, there have been some frustrations with metam sodium's distribution characteristics and variations in control.

Advances in application techniques and improve how it moves in the soil has the potential to increase the consistency and efficacy of Vapam as a soil fumigant.

There are important parameters that influence the activity and eventual success of a Vapam or K-Pam application. To use Vapam effectively, the applicator must follow the recommendations, be cognizant of soil conditions, method of application, rates, duration of application, temperature, soil texture, soil moisture, pH, ground preparation, and pest targeted for control.

Knowledge of these conditions and parameters make the difference in providing a precise application and a successful treatment.