



# Improving Performance of Foliar Directed Sprays

*“During the early stages of propagation, poinsettias need a constant film of moisture on the foliage... Mist enough to prevent excessive wilting. Excess (moisture) will increase the risk of disease development, leach nutrients from the cuttings and cause stretching”*

Ecke Ranch TIB 1999



## The Challenge

Water absorption through the leaf of unrooted cuttings is critical for establishment. The challenge is to achieve the right level of moisture on those leaves. Enough for rooting, but not too much which

causes problems. Adding to this challenge is the fact that the waxy coating on leaf surfaces causes water to bead up making it almost impossible to achieve a thin, consistent film of moisture.

## The Solution

CapSil greatly increases your ability to achieve the desired conditions. This super-spreader, formulated to give you greater efficacy at low, economical rates, lowers the surface tension of water, causing the large drops to spread out over the leaf surface. In fact, water treated with CapSil spreads 90 times farther than plain water alone. This significant reduction in surface tension allows water to fully cover the leaf surface and be more rapidly absorbed into the leaf providing what the cutting needs and avoiding excess moisture.



Untreated



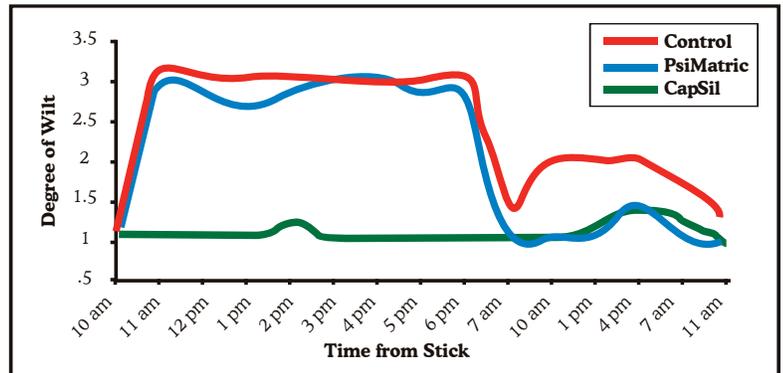
Treated

*To get your cuttings off to a good start and make the most out of your propagation investment, use CapSil in your misting program.*



## The Evidence

Studies conducted by Dr. Peter Konjoian of Konjoian's Floriculture Education Services, Inc., shows the benefit of using CapSil as part of your misting programs. In a head-to-head comparison with other surfactants, CapSil showed the greatest ability to increase and maintain turgidity of poinsettia cuttings. This increased turgidity reduces stress on cuttings and speeds establishment. Additional studies show that cuttings treated with CapSil also callous more quickly and begin to root sooner.



## Directions for Use

**Sticking cuttings (poinsettia, geranium, etc.):**  
Prepare 3-4 ounces in 100 gallons of water.

Dip cuttings before sticking or spray freshly stuck cuttings immediately following sticking, then begin misting.

