Controlling Redlegged Earth Mite in Clover and Lucerne

Farmers know the damage redlegged earth mite (Halotydeus destructor) can cause to newly emerging clovers and lucerne. Talstar® insecticide/miticide is registered in clover and lucerne for the control of redlegged earth mite at the bare earth stage to give long-term protection to seedlings as they emerge.

Long Residual Control

Talstar gives true bare earth residual control of redlegged earth mite for up to 60 days when applied at the 40 mL/ha rate.

![Redlegged earth mites (Halotydeus destructor). Photo: A. Weeks (CESAR).](image)

Controls a Range of Pasture Pests

Talstar also controls brown pasture looper, blue oat mite and pasture webworm at the 40 mL/ha rate.

Withholding Period

Do not graze pasture treated with Talstar for four weeks after application. Stock removed from treated pasture can be sent for slaughter with no delay (given the above restriction is observed).

Compatibility

Talstar 250 EC is compatible with insecticides, Imidan® and Dimethoate, and with the herbicides, Paraquat 250, Simazine 900, metolachlor and Pendimethalin.

Application

Apply as a broadcast ground rig application in a total water volume of 50 - 200 L/ha or by air in a minimum total water volume of 20 L/ha. Apply to bare soil after conventional cultivation and sowing or onto well grazed or sprayed pasture after direct drilling. Use the higher rate on heavier infestations and for longer residual protection.

Lucerne Flea

Like other synthetic pyrethroid insecticides, Talstar does not control lucerne flea. A tank mix with dimethoate or subsequent dimethoate application will give lucerne flea control.
Figure 1 shows the damage RLEM can cause. The clover population has been halved in the untreated area. Talstar is still giving excellent control 33 days after application.

Figure 2 shows Talstar giving excellent control 42 days after application to bare ground.