Injecting Conifers, Palms, and some Hardwoods

Conifers, palms, and some hardwoods may be treated using the Wedgle Direct-Inject unit with Portle or Palm Tips and the Tip Setter. The Tip Setter is used to drive these heavier injection tips deep into the active areas of conifers and palms, or through thick, tough outer bark of some hardwoods. WedgeCheks are not needed when using Portle or Palm Tips. You will need multiple tips to treat each tree; several of each type of tips, as well as the Tip Setter, are included in the Deluxe Wedgle Direct-Inject Kit. Additional tips may be purchased separately.

Note: Many conifers contain resin that may clog Portle Tips. Read all instructions before making injections.

1. Connect a Portle Tip or Palm Tip to the Tip Setter.

The Tip Setter (#74) uses a QC coupler to hold injection tips in place. Slide back the coupler, insert the hub end of a tip, then release to secure the tip in the setter.

2. Tap the injection tip into the tree using the sliding action of the Tip Setter. Place the tip against the bark, selecting a location where the bark is firmly adhered to the tree. Grasp the slide. Beginning gently, then with increasing force, tap the tip into the tree until the front of the hub is in tight contact with the bark.

It is important to keep the rear handle of the Tip Setter directly behind the tip in order to guide the tip into the tree without bending the tip. When inserting or removing Portle or Palm Tips, it is important to keep the setter perpendicular to the tree. Do not twist or move the setter or injector unit side to side, as this may bend or break the injection tip.

3. Disconnect the setter from the injection tip.

Pull back on the QC coupler, remove the setter, and leave the injection tip in the tree.

Many conifers contain resin that may clog Portle Tips if they are left in the tree too long before making the chemical injection, or if they are left in the tree longer than is necessary to allow the chemical to be absorbed.

To avoid clogging, make the chemical injection immediately after inserting the tip and remove tip as soon as chemical is absorbed. Read all instructions before making injections.

When treating palms or hardwoods you may continue inserting tips around the tree, following the spacing and number of injection sites information on the chemical label.

4. After tips are set in the tree, connect the Wedgle Direct-Inject unit to the tip.

While pulling back on the Front QC Coupler (#17), slide the injection unit over the tip, then release the QC Coupler to lock the injection unit to the tip.

5. Squeeze both handles of the injector at the same time using a smooth, firm motion. This delivers a pre-measured dose of chemical into the tree. Apply equal pressure on both handles— unequal pressure may bend or break the tip. Follow chemical label instructions to determine correct dosage, and number and spacing of injection sites.

6. After completing the injection, disconnect the injection unit from the tip.

Leave the tip in the tree. **Do not pull the tip out of the tree while it is connected to the injection unit**, as this may cause unwarranted damage to the injection unit or injection tip.

7. Check that absorption is complete. Tip should not be removed from the tree until the chemical has been absorbed, which may take up to five minutes. Individual trees absorb chemical at different rates and weather conditions affect absorption rate. You may need to leave the Portle Tips in some trees longer than others, depending upon how fast the tree is absorbing the chemical.

Each Portle Tip has a check valve in the hub which keeps chemical from coming out after the injection unit is disconnected from the tip. The check valve is visible only after the injection unit has been removed from the tip.

To test if the chemical has been fully absorbed, slightly depress the check valve in the tip hub. If chemical comes out of the check valve, wait a minute or two and retest. If no chemical comes out, the tip is ready to be removed.

8. Remove the injection tips from the tree. Reconnect the setter to the tip and slowly remove the tip by pulling firmly on the slide with a straight rearward motion. Hold the setter perpendicular to the tree to avoid bending the tip.

NOTE: If you have injected more than 2 ml of chemical in a single injection site, some chemical may follow the tip out of the tree as you withdraw it, regardless of how long the tip has been in the tree. Withdrawing the tip slowly will minimize chemical loss.

Successfully injecting conifers, palms, and some hardwoods

Injecting conifers Individual trees absorb chemical at different rates. You may need to leave the Portle Tips in some trees longer than others, depending upon how fast the tree is absorbing the chemical.

To test if the chemical has been fully absorbed, slightly depress the check valve in a tip hub. If no chemical comes out, the chemical has been absorbed by the tree and tips can be removed. If chemical comes out of the tip, leave all the Portle Tips in the tree for a few more minutes until the chemical is fully absorbed.

Some conifers contain resin that will clog Portle Tips if they are left in the tree longer than is necessary to allow the chemical to be absorbed. To avoid clogging, remove tips as soon as chemical is absorbed and submerge tips in alcohol (Use the tip cleaning and storage container included with the Portle kit).

If you have injected more than 2 ml of chemical in a single injection site, some chemical may follow the tip out of the tree as you withdraw it, regardless of how long the tip has been in the tree. Withdrawing the tip slowly will minimize chemical loss.

Injecting Palms Due to the toughness of some species of palms, it may be necessary to drill a 7/64" starter or pilot hole before placing the Portle Palm Tip into the plant.