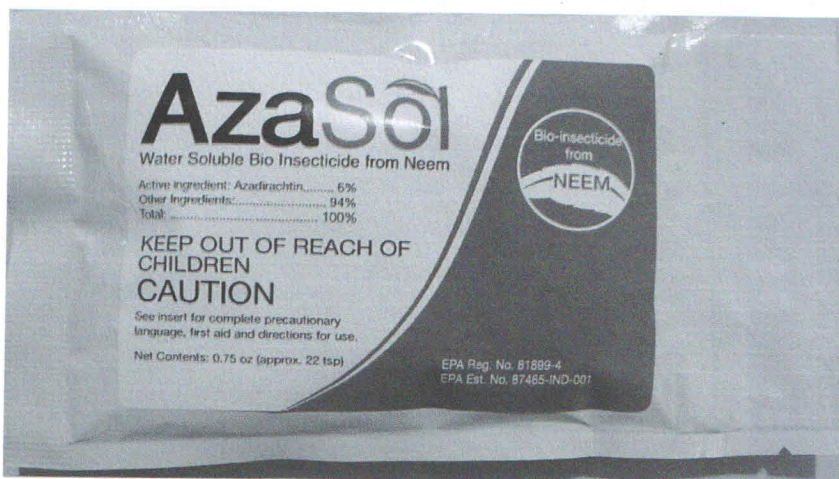


SoluNeem gets Organic tag with OMRI Certification

SoluNeem™ (AzaSol™), the water soluble neem based product, is the globally patented plant protection technology, invented and developed by Vittal Mallya Scientific Research Foundation, Bengaluru. It has US EPA approval for use against plant pest control since 2005. This is being promoted and marketed by Biosynergies India Private Limited, Bengaluru and SoluNeem Inc., Sausalito, California. Though it is of natural origin insecticide, lack of organic certification was the major hindrance in marketing the product for plant protection. Now SoluNeem is OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) Listed (OMRI Listed®), making it acceptable in organic farming.

The OMRI is an independent international organization that determines which agricultural input products are allowed for use in organic production and processing. It has members representing certifiers, farmers, input suppliers, processors, handlers, consumer organizations, and animal welfare and environmental groups. The 'OMRI Listed®' products are allowed for use in certified organic operations under the USDA (United States



Department of Agriculture) National Organic Program. Organic production has to obtain many regulatory clearances to protect ecological and human health than conventional agriculture. Under the organic regulations, only naturally derived pesticides and a small number of synthetic ingredients of low toxicity are allowed. Even the inert ingredients in these products must be approved for organic production. The OMRI supports organic integrity by providing organic certifiers, growers, manufacturers, and suppliers an independent review of products intended for use in certified organic production, handling, and processing.

With OMRI Listing (<http://www.omri.org/category/product-name/soluneem-azasol-water-soluble-bio-insecticide-neem>), SoluNeem gets much awaited 'organic tag'. This is a good achievement and encouragement for the Scientists of VMSRF, who did additional experiments and developed data package required for this organic certification process from OMRI. This opens up many avenues in USA and other parts of the world for marketing of SoluNeem.