



Rhapsody[®]
ASO

Need to Know

information sheet

// What makes Rhapsody different from other *Bacillus subtilis* products?

Rhapsody[®] ASO contains a unique strain of *Bacillus subtilis* known as QST 713. This highly active and patented strain of *Bacillus subtilis* is proprietary to Bayer and is formulated for optimum efficacy against problematic greenhouse diseases. The aqueous suspension (liquid) formulation allows for easy handling and storage.

QST strain 713 has been rigorously tested and is produced under strict quality control guidelines at a modern state-of-the-art production facility in Tlaxcala, Mexico. Each batch is thoroughly tested for metabolite and spore production before it reaches the grower.

Rhapsody ASO's formulation has been optimized to ensure proper dispersal in the spray tank and consistent plant coverage during application. It is highly suspendible, allowing for flexible compatibility with a wide range of other pesticides, fertilizers and adjuvants.

Unlike other *Bacillus subtilis* products, the uniquely active QST 713 strain of *Bacillus subtilis* in Rhapsody ASO is registered with Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, and has been thoroughly evaluated for efficacy against a broad range of fungal and bacterial plant pathogens. Rhapsody ASO is the only bio-fungicide that is Backed by Bayer; meaning it comes with an extensive collection of University-based research and technical support that ensures product efficacy under a wide range of conditions.

Bacillus subtilis QST 713 is unique

Bacillus subtilis strains in general:

- Produce extremely photo- and temperature-stable spores
- Are Generally Regarded As Safe (GRAS)
- Have been widely used for industrial processes (like detergents, wastewater treatment)
- Were first characterized in 1835
- Found all over

Bacillus subtilis QST 713 is unique (Rhapsody ASO):

- Isolated from natural products screen of more than 20,000 strains
- Produces a unique and patented combination of 3 groups of biochemicals that control diseases called lipopeptides
- Lipopeptides are pH, photo- and temp-stable
- Active against both fungal and bacterial pathogens
- Genetically distinct strain
- Produces 10X – 100X more lipopeptides than other commercial *Bacillus subtilis* strains
- Produces 2X – 3X more antibacterial compounds than other *Bacillus subtilis* strains
- Contains more genes for anti-fungal/bacterial activity than any known microbe (9.3%)
- Can be stored at room temperature
- Shelf life of 3 years



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