

T-TAPE INSTRUCTIONS

Correct Handling of T-Tape Reels

- The T-Tape reel should be properly protected from the environment before its use.
- Do not double-stack pallets containing T-Tape reels.
- Leave all protective wrapping in place until ready to install.
- Do not set T-Tape reels on forklift forks unless reels are on a pallet.
- Keep cardboard disks in place until T-Tape reel is empty.
- Do not throw, drop or roll T-Tape reels when loading or unloading from truck.
- Do not lift T-Tape reel by the core by inserting finger in the end plug hole because this can damage or loosen the plug and possibly cause the cardboard disks to fall off during handling or installation. Insert fingers under bottom of the reel to lift.
- Do not drag T-Tape reels on surfaces that could tear the packaging and possibly damage the T-Tape.
- Do not set T-Tape reels on sharp objects.
- If cardboard sides come off, do not set T-Tape reel on its side especially on surfaces that could cause damage to the edges of the T-Tape.
- Care should be taken when using a knife to cut the plastic wrapper from the T-Tape reel to avoid slicing or puncturing the T-Tape.
- After removal of protective wrap from T-Tape reel do not remove sticky tape (that keeps the T-Tape from unravelling) until the reel is secured onto the spool carrier.
- When lifting T-Tape reels, be sure to use proper lifting procedures to avoid injury.

INSTALLATION SUGGESTIONS

1) The T-Tape must be installed with the print side and outlets facing up. This will minimise sediment settling at the inlet, which may potentially cause plugging.

2) T-Tape can be used on the surface where it is not practical or the preference is not to bury, however its working life will be reduced. Rows are usually placed 300mm apart or one per row of crops. T-Tape is simply rolled out and laid on the soil surface, usually requiring no securing.

Ideally T-Tape should be buried a minimum of 2.5cm (one inch). This will result in the following advantages;

- Reduced field damage from animals and workers in the field.
- Maintains the T-Tape in the proper locations so it is not moved by wind or temperature fluctuations.
- Less surface evaporation of water, chemicals and fertilisers.
- Better uniformity of water, chemical and fertiliser distribution in the soil along the T-Tape and better placement in the root zone.
- Eliminates the possibility of burning the T-Tape when used under clear plastic. This is caused by sun rays being focused by water droplets formed on the underside of the plastic. T-Tape must be buried when installed under clear plastic mulch.



3) T-Tape should be placed away from aggressive tap roots that can girdle the T-Tape and choke the flow of water.

4) Where ground insects are a potential problem, insecticides should be used in advance of, or during installation of the T-Tape.

5) Allow the T-Tape reel and side disks to turn freely during installation. Do not drag the drip tape along or under the ground. Avoid jerks which could damage the T-Tape.

6) For larger commercial projects, be sure to check your installation tool to ensure that it is free from nicks, burrs and an unnecessary drag. When installing T-Tape, the injector tool should be a cylinder of at least 40mm (1.5 inches) I.D. for the 500 model and 50mm (2 inches) I.D. for the 700 model.



7) Be sure the corrugated side disks are supported during installation i.e. a wood or metal disk on each side. It is recommended that the reel be held in place on the shaft by a hub which fits into the end plug on the reel.

8) Please see **Figure 1** for examples of T-Tape closing end and splicing techniques.

9) T-Tape runs at a minimum pressure of 4.0 PSI (0.275bar). The recommended running pressure is 8.0 PSI (0.551bar). Use a suitable pressure regulator to ensure system pressure remains constant.

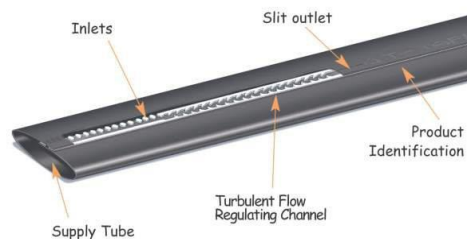
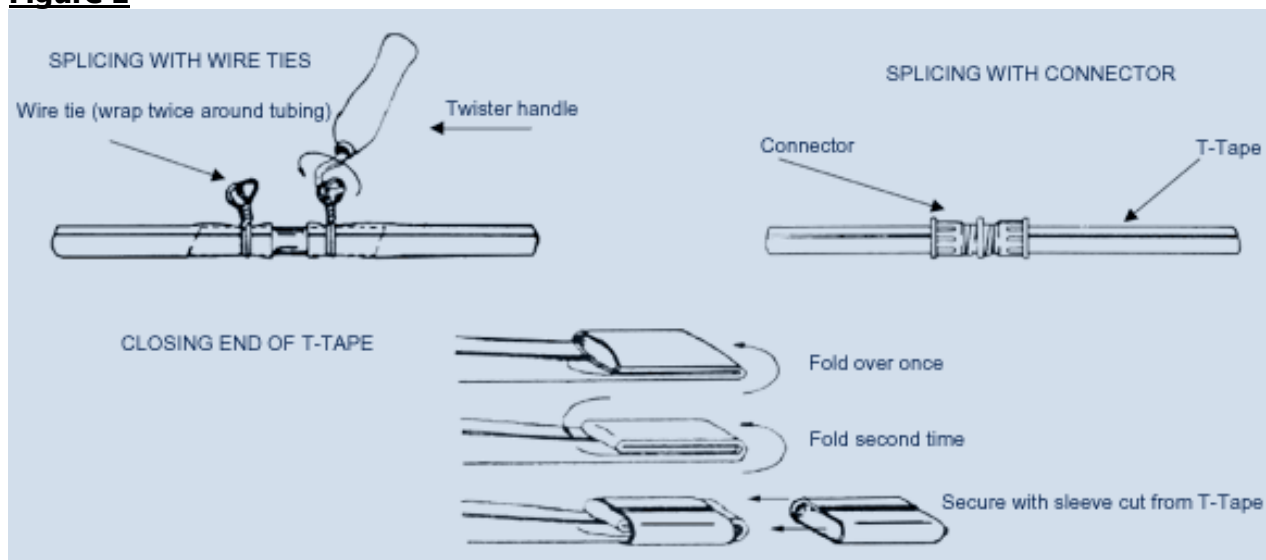


Figure 1**Header Connections**

- The T-Tape is connected to the supply pipe using a special T-Tape adaptor fitting.

Single outlet feed pipe

- If the T-Tape is to be connected to a single pipe then a barbed fitting should be used. Warm the end of the supply pipe in hot water, usually (16mm) and push onto the barbed end of the fitting up to the stop.

**Multiple outlet feed pipe**

- If the T-Tape is to be connected to a main header in rows, a barbed tee is first inserted in the header pipe. A 16mm tee is used on 16mm headers, for 20mm headers a 20mm-16mm tee is used and a stub of 16mm pipe used to connect the tee to the T-Tape connector.

Flush the header pipes through with clean water.

- Loosen the T-Tape fitting grip ring and insert the T-Tape ensuring correct location around the inlet snout. Tighten the T-Tape fitting grip ring.

Saddle fitting

- If a saddle fitting connection is to be used, first attach the saddle to the pipe at the position/spacing required. (**Ensure the inner seal is correctly located**).
- Use a drill or saddle cutter to cut the saddle outlet size as appropriate. (**Ensure no swarf enters the pipe**).
- Seal the T-Tape fitting external threads with PTFE sealing tape.
- Screw the T-Tape fitting into the saddle outlet.

**Flush the header pipes through with clean water.**

- Loosen the T-Tape fitting grip ring and insert the T-Tape ensuring correct location around the inlet snout. Tighten the T-Tape fitting grip ring.

Take off fitting

- The barbed type fitting is designed to go straight into the header pipe, minimum size 32mm.
- Drill or punch the header pipe 12mm at the position/spacing required and push the barbed end into the hole ensuring it 'clicks' fully in. (***Perform the complete fitting process one at a time***).

***Flush the header pipes through with clean water.***

- Loosen the T-Tape fitting grip ring and insert the T-Tape ensuring correct location around the inlet snout. Tighten the T-Tape fitting grip ring.

Maintaining Internal Condition of T-Tape***Flushing of distribution system***

The easiest and most cost effective form of maintenance is regular flushing. The frequency of flushing varies from weekly to monthly depending on water quality.

Flushing of Laterals

Again, this should be done more frequently in warmer weather. Ensure when each lateral is being flushed it has a full bore discharge. This will ensure any contaminants present are expelled from the system. The use of flushing manifolds greatly simplifies this procedure. Balance the frequency of flushing and chlorination with seasonal changes and internal condition of the T-TAPE. Warmer weather usually equates to higher loads of algae, bacteria and carbonates in the system.

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