

Mist Nozzles that Work for Us

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We found it necessary to close out production of all junipers and drastically increase our summer softwood liner production because of changes in our liner production business in past years. In the past we only kept enough propagation equipment on hand to meet our production schedule. However, with the increase in summer production we found ourselves short of mist nozzles. In the past, we had our nozzles custom assembled and modified from parts available through a local source. However, the gentleman who did this procedure died, and we have been unable to locate a machine shop that was willing to do this identical modification.

Table 1. Agrofim State-Flo Mister nozzle, Model SF-32, before and after modification.

	Standard factory	After modification
Orifice (in.)	0.032	0.625
REC PSI	45	120
Discharge (GPH)	8.0	40.0
Coverage discharge (in.)	48	50

After finding that we had \$5.00 invested in a nozzle that was not as satisfactory as the one that we were using, we started to check horticulture supply houses for an alternative nozzle. Following several years of searching and testing, we found a nozzle, the State-Flo Mister by Agrofim at a cost of fifty cents each, that could be made compatible with our existing propagation equipment. The nozzle had to be modified because of an uneven, coarse-spray pattern, sometimes with no spray pattern at all, when received from the company. To correct the spray pattern, we bored the nozzle head with a one-sixteenth inch standard drill bit. Table 1 shows a comparison of the nozzle before and after modification. By placing the Agrofim State-Flo Mister nozzle in a one-fourth by one-eighth galvanized bushing, it would fit into our standard riser. This riser is constructed of a one-fourth galvanized hex cap brazed to a number eight wire, 20 in. in length with a 3/16 in. hole being punched in the hex cap.