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Pesticides
Fact Sheet

# SPRAY NOZZLE OPERATING LIFE

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For many years brass tips were used on boom sprayers and manufacturers recommend that brass nozzles be replaced every one-to-two years. This short operating life reflects negatively on producers who used the same brass nozzles for longer periods of time. It's true that fives years is a very long time to use the same brass nozzles, but hours of use rather than years of installation is the better measure of a nozzle's life. The following information from the TeeJet Company provides an excellent comparison of nozzle material to wear life and price. The next time your boom sprayer needs an overhaul, consider installing tips made from materials that offer a longer operating life.

| Tip Material Available | Manufacturer & Order Number | Price of Nozzle Cat. # PL-98C | Nozzle Life |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brass | TeeJet TP11004 | $ 2.80 each | 1 wear life **($ 2.80 @ wear life)** |
| Polymer ("plastic") | TeeJet XR11004YP | $ 2.07 each | 2-3 times the life of brass **($1.04 @ 2 times the wear life)** |
| Stainless Steel | TeeJet XR11004VS | $ 4.95 each | 4-6 times the life of brass **($ 1.24 @ 4 times the wear life)** |
| Stainless Steel-Hardened | TeeJet XR11004VH | $ 5.89 each | 8-15 times the life of brass **($ 0.74 @ 8 times the wear life)** |
| Ceramic | TeeJet XR11004VK | $ 4.14 each | 20-100 times the life of brass **($ 0.21 @ 20 time the wear life)** |

**Explanation:** If you normally use brass nozzles for two years before replacing them, stainless steel nozzles will last eight-to-twelve years and cost less over the long term to operate.

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