

How *Pasteuria* Works Against Sting Nematodes

When *Pasteuria* spp. attaches to nematodes the amount of damage they cause is significantly reduced.

The life cycle of sting nematodes infected with *Pasteuria* is illustrated:

- ➊ **Attachment Stage:** *Pasteuria* attaches to the nematode as it passes through the treated soil.
- ➋ **Germination Stage:** *Pasteuria* penetrates the outer cuticle of the nematode and infects the interior of the body.
- ➌ **Cell Growth Stage:** *Pasteuria* cells fill the nematode body and begin to change into several intermediate shapes as nutrients are depleted.
- ➍ **Sporulation Stage:** *Pasteuria* spores begin to form, increasing in number.
- ➎ **Maturation Stage:** The spores develop external structures that will allow them to attach to more nematodes.
- ➏ **Spore Release Stage:** At the death of the nematode, spores are released into the soil to repeat the cycle.

