Foliar sprays of calcium are beneficial for poinsettias at any time during the crop but they become imperative once bract formation begins. Calcium chloride dihydrate is the preferred calcium source for this purpose as it supplies readily available calcium without also adding nitrogen. It also has no dye and causes just a slight residue when used with a surfactant such as CapSil. Foliar sprays of calcium strengthen stems and minimize the risk from bract edge burn. Available in 1 kilo (2.2 lb) containers, # 31-120115.

Apply foliar sprays of calcium chloride dihydrate at 0.5 oz/3 gallons of water, (1 lb per 100 gallons), along with 1/2 teaspoon /gal (8 oz per 100 gallons) of CapSil as a spreading agent. Begin weekly sprays as soon as colored bracts are present and continue for at least 4 weeks. Growers with a history of bract edge problems on their crops may want to continue applications until the crop leaves the greenhouse. Never spray this mixture when the plants are under water stress or when greenhouse temperatures exceed 80 degrees F. Spray to glisten. CapSil should not be applied more often than once per week to poinsettias.