

Section C.8

Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide for Burrowing Rodent Control

Introduction

In April 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency required that aluminum and magnesium phosphide products for burrowing rodent control be labeled with additional restrictions to protect human health. Products labeled before that date may still be in the channels of trade and not contain the added protective measures. For products with older labeling and lacking the U.S. EPA-required restrictions, the following permit conditions are recommended.

Use requirements

To ensure that the more restrictive use requirements are applied to all aluminum or magnesium phosphide products for burrowing rodent control, DPR recommends that restricted material permits be issued with the conditions:

1. Use of Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide is strictly prohibited around all residential areas, including single and multi-family residential properties, nursing homes, schools (except athletic fields, where use may continue), day care facilities, and hospitals.
2. Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide must only be used outdoors for control of burrowing pests, and are for use only on: agricultural areas, orchards, non-crop areas (such as pasture and rangeland), golf courses, athletic fields, parks and recreational areas, cemeteries, airports, rights-of-way, earthen dams, and other non-residential institutional or industrial sites.
3. Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide must not be applied in a burrow system that is within 100 feet of a building that is or may be occupied by people or domestic animals.
4. When this product is used in athletic fields or parks, the applicator must post a sign at entrances to the treated site containing the signal word DANGER/PELIGRO, skull and crossbones, the words: DO NOT ENTER/NO ENTRE, FIELD NOT FOR USE, the name and EPA registration number of the fumigant, and a 24-hour emergency response number. Signs may be removed 2 days after the final treatment.

Continued on next page

Aluminum and Magnesium Phosphide for Burrowing Rodent Control, Continued

Use requirements
(continued)

5. When this product is used out-of-doors in a site frequented by people, other than an athletic field or park, the applicator shall post a sign at the application site containing the signal word DANGER/PELIGRO, skull and crossbones, the name and EPA registration number of the fumigant, and a 24-hour emergency response number. Signs may be removed 2 days after the final treatment.

 6. A Fumigant Management Plan (FMP) must be written for all fumigations prior actual treatment. A Fumigant Management Plan is a written description of the steps designed to plan for a safe, legal and effective fumigation. The certified applicator and owner of the property to be fumigated must characterize the area to be treated and include all safety requirements in the plan before application.
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