

DEGESCH America, Inc. Newsletter

Issue IV

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Magtoxin[®] Granules Label Approved



Tuesday, September 17, 2002

The dawning of a new era in phosphine fumigation in the United States. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded Degesch America, Inc.

registration # 40285-17 for Degesch Magtoxin® Granules. This product, used only in the Degesch Phosphine Generator (see below), adds one more tool to the shrinking number of products available to fumigators for this specialized form of insect control. When registration at the State level is completed this Fall, the Degesch Phosphine Generator will be available for sale or lease to qualified applicators in the U.S., as well as Canada.

History of the Degesch Phosphine Generator

In late 1997 Degesch America, Inc. brought the first phosphine generator, developed by Degesch de Chile, to the United States. Degesch America, Inc. took the idea of the Chilean generator, improved on the design, and today makes available the Degesch Phosphine Generator (U.S. Patent # 5,820,840). This new generation of phosphine application equipment is "Made in the USA" using state of the art electronics and heavy duty parts. We have engineered into the Degesch Generator additional safety features and alarms that allow the operator to closely monitor fumigant application. The Degesch Generator is designed to run automatically once programmed by the operator. Sensors located throughout the Degesch Generator monitor designated parameter levels and alert the operator of any discrepancies. The Degesch Generator comes with a manual pre-fumigation check system that verifies the operating condition of the unit.

The Degesch Generator is able to produce high concentrations of PH^3 by using a 94% technical grade of magnesium phosphide (Degesch Magtoxin® Granules). A small amount of carbon dioxide (CO^2) is used to create an inert atmosphere inside the reaction chamber. The CO^2 also acts as a propellant to move the Degesch Magtoxin® Granules through the unit. The Degesch Generator uses a 100 cfm internal recirculation fan to draw air from inside the structure, mix it with phosphine and return it to the structure. This eliminates pressurization of the fumigated structure that occurs with conventional "injection" style fumigations. The Degesch Generator is capable of reacting about 3,000 grams of Degesch Magtoxin® Granules in one hour. This equates to approximately 725 parts per million (ppm) throughout a 100,000 cubic foot storage.

The Degesch Generator is designed to produce high levels of hydrogen phosphide (PH_3) in a short period of time from outside of the structure to be fumigated. By doing so, we are able to:

1) Make the fumigation period as short as is possible.

Remember, no matter what product is used, the minimum exposure period for any phosphine fumigation is 48 hours. The only exception is Degesch Magtoxin[®] Spot Fumigant which has a 34 hour exposure period.

2) Reduce potential worker exposure.

The label currently in effect requires that fumigators be exposed to a time weighted average (TWA) of no more than 0.3ppm during application. Once application is complete this 0.3ppm becomes a ceiling that cannot be exceeded without appropriate respiratory protection. Fumigators should carefully monitor and document exposure levels to insure compliance with the label guidelines.



Click to enlarge the picture

For more info on the Degesch Phosphine Generator contact mmathews@degeschamerica.com

Monitoring Studies Update


The Memorandum of Agreement signed by the Registrants and EPA in the fall of 2000 required the Registrants to undertake a review of phosphine emissions that occur during fumigation/aeration and report these findings back to the Agency. Over 30 sites were evaluated in the summer of 2001 to determine if


workers or bystanders were being exposed to unacceptable levels of hydrogen phosphide. The first draft of this Monitoring Studies Report has been completed. This 200+ page document is currently under review prior to final submission, hopefully in November of this year. When completed, we will make this document available via our website.

Draft Phostoxin[®] Label

There have been no changes to the draft label since the last issue of our newsletter. This draft label does not have final approval so changes could still occur. There will be a meeting between the Registrants and EPA on October 8, 2002 to discuss some of the final details. We will announce any changes and/or approvals on the Degesch America, Inc. website as soon as they are known.

The best estimate for **Phostoxin[®]** with the new label appearing in the marketplace is 2003. EPA has indicated that there will be no product recall, so any **Phostoxin[®]** you have on hand can still be used legally in accordance with the label that came with it.

To view the Draft Phostoxin[®] Label, click here  [Phostoxin[®] Label](#)

To view this file you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader installed. If you do not have the Adobe Acrobat Reader, you can download it here 

Fumigation Management Plan (FMP)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is a FMP?

A Fumigation Management Plan is an organized description of the steps involved to help ensure a safe, effective fumigation.

Why do I need a FMP?

The new label currently under review by US EPA requires that **all** fumigations be performed in accordance with a written FMP.

Who writes a FMP?

The FMP is written by the fumigator in conjunction with the owner/operator of the site to be fumigated.

What information should a FMP include?

The new Applicators Manuals will have a section to guide you in the creation of a FMP.

Does a FMP have to be written?

Yes! The FMP is required to be kept for two years after the fumigation. Remember; "If it isn't documented, it didn't happen!"

Isn't there a just blank form I can fill out?

No! Every fumigation is different and will require details much to specific to be generalized in a single form.

I've been fumigating the same structures for 10 years with no problems. Why should I start writing this stuff down now?

Failure to follow label directions is a violation of Federal law. EPA has indicated that they will take a very proactive stance in the enforcement of this requirement.

I don't use Phostoxin®, I use Fumitoxin® or Weevilcide® or Eco2Fume®. Does the FMP still apply to me?

Yes! All products will have essentially the same label. The FMP concept is a requirement every Registrants label.

The above questions were just a few of the ones asked at the recent Stored Pest Product Workshop at Kansas State University. Fumigation Management Plans are coming so you had better start to prepare. Degesch America, Inc. decided that as of September 1, 2002, all fumigations performed by our company would require a FMP. By taking this proactive approach, and not waiting for the final deadline, we hope to be able to work the kinks out of the FMP process as it relates to our customers. We would encourage all members

of the fumigation community to do the same.

If you would like to submit a question concerning FMP's for possible inclusion in the FAQ, send it to me at jsmiley@degeschamercia.com

Conventions and Conferences

North American Millers Association

In celebration of 100 years of service, The North American Millers Association (NAMA) will hold their 2002 Annual Meeting at the Silverado Country Club & Resort in Napa, CA on October 19-21, 2002. Additional information can be found at their website in the Members Section: www.namamillers.org. If you are not a member, send a message to generalinfo@namamillers.org

National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA)

"Prime exhibit space still is available for the Dec. 8-9 NGFA Trade Show. The show will be held at the Hyatt Regency at Union Station in St. Louis side-by-side with the popular Country Elevator Council and Feed Industry Council meetings. The facility and the location are ideal, with more than 500 principal registrants expected for the meetings, giving exhibitors excellent access to these decision-makers.

Great Value! The show registration fee is only \$650 for NGFA members! That includes one complimentary registration to both conferences, including food/beverage functions! For more information on the show and to download a registration form, visit <http://www.ngfa.org> and click on the Trade Show link." - Todd Kemp - NGFA

National Pest Management Association Conference (NPMA)

The NPMA conference will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Gaylord Palms Hotel on October 16 - 19, 2002. Additional information is available at: www.pestworld.org

"Once a year the entire pest management industry meets to learn ways to improve their businesses, network with industry peers, explore new ideas and discover new innovations. The venue for this annual meeting is the NPMA Pest Management Convention & Exposition. This year Pest Management 2002 is going to Orlando, FL, to the brand new Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center." - NPMA Website

Entomological Society of America (ESA)

The 2002 ESA Annual Meeting & Exhibition will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida at the Broward County Convention Center on November 17 - 20, 2002. Additional information is available at: www.entsoc.org

"Welcome to Fort Lauderdale for the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Our meeting will be held November 17-20, and will have as its theme "Entomology: An Integrated Science." The theme highlights the concept that the study of insects includes all its subdisciplines and incorporates both the biological and physical sciences." - ESA President J. E. McPherson - ESA Website

People in the News

Congratulations

"Dr. Subramanyam (Subi) Bhadriraju, associate professor, Department of Grain Science and Industry, Kansas State University, Manhattan, has joined *"Milling Journal"* as a regular columnist. He will cover pest management topics including sampling/trapping insects, managing insect pests with pesticide alternatives or reduced-risk pesticides and IPM programs for insects in stored grain and processed foods." - *Grain Journal*

Golf Accomplishments

Two of America's premier golfers achieved unprecedented fame this weekend on Father's Day.

Don Shaheen aced the ninth hole at Spotswood Country Club. Shaheen holed out a sand wedge on the 325 yard par three. He was immediately mobbed by a horde of adoring spectators. After signing autographs for a half hour, he and his significant other, (Melanie Griffith) were interviewed by UP, AP, CNN, ESPN and the Altoona Mirror. If you act quickly, Susan Nichols can get a message to Don prior to his entry onto the Lebanese Senior Tour. Susan can be reached at snichols@degeschamerica.com

Tiger Woods won the U.S. open.

If you have an event that you would like to see featured or a topic to suggest, send the particulars to jsmiley@degeschamerica.com

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