

DEGESCH America, Inc. Newsletter

Issue V

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Magtoxin® Granules Receive U.S. EPA Registration

Degesch Magtoxin® Granules, EPA Reg. # 40285-17, are currently being registered in individual states. This product is for use **only** with the Degesch Phosphine Generator and may be purchased only by those who buy/lease a Phosphine Generator. Designed for use by companies requiring large concentrations of phosphine, produced in a short period of time, the Generator is ideal for creating and maintaining high phosphine concentrations while eliminating the need to reenter the facility under fumigation. The Granules, a high assay (94.6%) magnesium phosphide product, come in 850 gram flasks. Each flask generates 405 grams of phosphine, or almost one gram of phosphine for every two grams of Granules. Packed in cases of 21 flasks, each case will produce 8,510 grams of phosphine. For more information on the Degesch Phosphine Generator and Magtoxin Granules, click [here](#)

RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE
DUE TO ACUTE INHALATION TOXICITY OF
HIGHLY TOXIC HYDROGEN PHOSPHIDE
(PHOSPHINE, PH₃) GAS

For retail sale to and use only by certified applicators for those uses covered by the applicator's certification or persons trained in accordance with the Applicator's Manual working under the direct supervision and in the physical presence of the certified applicator. Physical presence means on site or on the premises. Read and follow the label and the DEGESCH America, Inc. Applicator's Manual which contains complete instructions for the safe use of this pesticide.

**APPLICATOR'S MANUAL
FOR
DEGESCH MAGTOXIN® GRANULES**

Patent Nos. - PENDING
FOR USE ONLY WITH THE DEGESCH GENERATOR TO PRODUCE
PHOSPHINE GAS FOR CONTROL OF PESTS OF STORED PRODUCTS

Active Ingredient: Magnesium Phosphide94.6%
Inert Ingredients.....5.4%

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
DANGER - POISON - PELIGRO**

PRECAUCION AL USUARIO: Si usted no lee ingles, no use este productor hasta que la etiqueta se le haya sido explicado amplamente.
(TO THE USER: If you cannot read English, do not use this product until the label has been fully explained to you.)

STATEMENT OF PRACTICAL TREATMENT
Symptoms of overexposure are headache, dizziness, nausea, difficult breathing, vomiting, and diarrhea. In all cases of overexposure get medical attention immediately. Take victim to a doctor or emergency treatment facility.

If the gas or powder from MAGTOXIN® GRANULES is inhaled:
Get exposed person to fresh air. Keep warm and make sure person can breathe freely. If breathing has stopped, give artificial respiration by mouth-to-mouth or other means of resuscitation. Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

If MAGTOXIN® GRANULES or powder is swallowed:
Drink or administer one or two glasses of water and induce vomiting by touching back of throat with finger, or if available, syrup of ipecac. Do not give anything by mouth if victim is unconscious or not alert.

If MAGTOXIN® GRANULES or powder get on skin or clothing:
Brush or shake material off clothes and shoes in a well ventilated area. Allow clothes to aerate in a ventilated area prior to laundering. Do not leave contaminated clothing in occupied and/or confined areas such as automobiles, vans, motel rooms, etc. Wash contaminated skin thoroughly with soap and water.

If powder from MAGTOXIN® GRANULES or the spent slurry gets in eyes:
Flush with plenty of water. Get medical attention.

HOT LINE NUMBER
Have the product container or label with you when calling a poison control center or doctor, or going for treatment. You may also contact DEGESCH AMERICA, INC. - 540-234-9281/1-800-330-2525 or CHEMTREC - 800-424-9300 for emergency.

D & D HOLDINGS, INC.
153 Triangle Drive • P. O. Box 116 • Weyers Cave, Virginia 24486 USA
Telephone: 540-234-9281/800-330-2525
Internet: www.degeschamerica.com • E-mail: degesch@degeschamerica.com
EPA Est. No. 40285-CH-01 • EPA Reg. No. 72959-11

FORM 32044 (R 11/02) (P 11/02)

Monitoring Study Update

The Registrants have submitted the data collected in 2001 to U.S. EPA (the Agency). The submission, entitled "Phosphine Monitoring Data Collected from Various Types of Fumigation Sites" was made on January 9, 2003 and we are presently awaiting formal acceptance by the Agency. Once the Agency approves the submitted format, they will assign a MRID number and place the study in the public docket, so that it may be accessed by any interested entity.

Overview

The following are the Conclusions and Recommendations pages of the study. For copies of the complete study, see below.

CONCLUSIONS

- For fumigations of warehouses and containers, respiratory protection would not appear to be required outside the sealed warehouse or container until aeration begins. Respiratory protection will have to be worn upon aeration until the certified applicator gives the approval to remove this protection based on monitoring data for phosphine concentrations that demonstrates that the concentrations are below the 0.3 ppm worker exposure standard.
- For grain bin fumigations, the data indicate that respiratory protection would not be required at all; however, the certified applicator and fumigation workers must monitor for phosphine concentrations to document that workers are not being exposed to phosphine at concentrations above the worker exposure standard.
- For tarp fumigations, the data suggest that respiratory protection would not be required during the fumigation itself. Monitoring for phosphine concentrations outside the tarp must be conducted periodically to document that there are no leaks. The data demonstrate that during aeration of tarps inside buildings, all workers must wear respiratory protection until the certified applicator documents that phosphine concentrations are below the 0.3 ppm worker exposure standard. Relocation (or addition) of “Warning Placards” might be necessary to insure adequate worker bystander notification.
- The use of personal protective equipment (respiratory protection) until the certified applicator gives the order to remove it will eliminate all exposures that could present a risk of adverse health effects to workers or worker bystanders.
- The data collected provided no evidence of unacceptable exposure to phosphine by non-fumigation workers, bystanders or the general public, even if located directly downwind of the fumigation sites.

- The results of this study are consistent with the wealth of historical evidence of the safety of phosphine fumigation, when used in the correct manner by appropriately trained applicators. Furthermore, the overwhelming weight of evidence indicates that the current labeling, and the additional protections included in the new labeling, provides adequate protection to fumigators, worker bystanders and the public.

Electronic monitoring equipment continues to evolve. The equipment presently available is more than able to provide adequate information about high level concentrations and should be used primarily for detection of leakage and determination of efficacy. When measurements are made for the purpose of re-entry or worker bystander safety, it is still advisable to verify electronic instruments against detector tubes. The cost differential between manual and electronic equipment is, and will continue to be, the prime consideration in the choice of detectors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- After the certified applicator develops sufficient historical information about a fumigation site, the written site-specific fumigation management plans can be based on historical monitoring data. Historical data can be used by the certified applicator to provide preliminary guidance on the use of respiratory protection but can not be substituted for monitoring during ongoing or future fumigations.
- The certified applicator must be responsible for conducting spot monitoring checks for phosphine concentrations and document this data to demonstrate that the fumigation management plan is protecting all workers, worker bystanders and the general public.
- Respiratory protection equipment must be readily available and donned immediately if phosphine concentrations unexpectedly exceed the worker exposure standard.
- Although the data collected in this study indicate the likelihood of such an event is remote, the certified applicator must nonetheless have an emergency response plan in place with local authorities and be prepared to respond immediately should monitoring data indicate a risk of exposure by the general public.

- While the data presented in this study suggests that fumigations were conducted without producing excessive phosphine concentrations, improved and upgraded training of certified applicators is a desirable goal. This is the key to ensuring the continued safe use of this product line. It is critical that EPA, USDA and the states work together toward upgrading each of the training modules and use them in the training and certification of applicators.
- EPA must approve the pending label revisions as soon as possible. Formal approval by EPA of this pending label will help ensure that users have access to the best and latest information on the conditions and restrictions for using these products.

Acknowledgements

This data collection and document assembly was a major undertaking that would not have been possible without the help of quite a few individuals and firms. The following, in no particular order, collected the data that was used to prepare the report.

Cardinal Chemical Co. - Ed Hosoda

Fume Tech - Jim Garrett

Fumigation Service & Supply - John Mueller

Industrial Fumigant Company - Pamela Peckman

EcoLab - Myron Bauman

Cytec - Mike DePalo

Degesch America, Inc. - Mark Mathews, Jim Story, Jerry Bartlett,
Thomas Meave, Mike McLean

The Registrants would like to thank Dr. Joel Seckar and Dr. Paul Harp - R J Reynolds Tobacco Co., for their expertise and help in putting together the report. Their efforts in converting the raw data to a usable and readable report cannot go unrecognized.

How Can I Get a Copy of the Study?

The finished study weighed in at 7 pounds spread out over 376 pages and took about 160 MB of disk space. This size precludes putting the entire document on this site. Copies may be obtained from the Agency once a MRID number is assigned and it is placed in the public docket. Charges and procedures for this method are at the sole discretion of the Agency.

Conventions and Conferences

Degesch America, Inc. Recertification School

Do you need recertification credits to keep your license or certification current? Come join us at the Degesch America, Inc. Recertification School in Charlottesville, VA on April 24, 2003. This year's topics include Structural Fumigation, Gas Detection and Respiratory Protection, Integrated Pest Management, Food Plant Pest Control, The Degesch Phosphine Generator and Phosphine Abatement Unit, The Current Status of Methyl Bromide, Ship Fumigation, The New Phosphine Label and more. For the complete schedule and a registration form, click [here](#).

Grain Elevator and Processing Society

GEAPS Exchange 2003 -- Top 10 Questions

1. When is the Exchange?

March 1-4, 2003

2. Where is it?

Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio

3. What is it?

The Exchange is both a technical conference and an exposition. The technical conference will include 20 or more educational sessions of interest to grain-operations professionals. The exposition is for companies in the grain industry - or suppliers to it -- to showcase their products and services. The Exchange in Columbus will be GEAPS' 74th annual program.

To see the rest of the Top 10, click [here](#)

Degesch America, Inc. will be an Exhibitor at the trade show and present the Soda Blaster ([See Issue II](#)) as part of the "What's New" educational session. George Luzaich, Mark Mathews and Jim Smiley will be in attendance. Stop by booth # 507-509 and check out the Soda Blaster.

Association of Operative Millers

Association of Operative Millers 107th Annual Technical Conference and Trade Show

When: May 17- 21, 2003

Where: David L. Lawrence Convention Center and The Westin Convention Center Pittsburgh Hotel. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Degesch America, Inc. will be an Exhibitor at the trade show and have the Degesch Phosphine Generator on display. Herb Yeaman, Mark Mathews and Jim Smiley will be in attendance. Stop by booth # 515-614 and look over the Phosphine Generator

People in the News Congratulations

Rolf Geiss, Managing Director of Detia Degesch Germany and responsible for international sales officially retired December 31, 2002. Mr. Geiss was also a member of the Board of Directors for Degesch America, Inc. While no longer involved in the day to day operations of Detia Degesch, Rolf will continue to provide his input and support as the transition takes place.

Degesch America, Inc. congratulates Thomas Meave, Houston Division Manager and Randy Condra, Southwest Sales Manager on their newly assigned positions. Thomas will be responsible for the daily operations of the Houston Division office while Randy will be promoting new sales opportunities for the region.

George Tate, a former employee of Degesch America, Inc., sent word that he is engaged to be married. The proposal took place on Christmas Day 2002 with a wedding date to be announced shortly. Please join all of us in wishing the future Mrs. Tate the "Wisdom of Solomon" and the "Patience of Job" as she embarks on this life long journey. Those wishing to correspond directly with George may reach him at: [George Tate](#)

News from the world of Degesch sports: At a recent golf outing in New Orleans, Jim Sharpe bested George Luzaich on consecutive days. Mr. Luzaich and Noah Pritchard of [Bluewater Shipping](#) fame also engaged in a match with both claiming victory at the end. Due to the individuals involved, we were unable to ascertain the true results and leave you to draw your own conclusions.

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