



DEGESCH America, Inc. Newsletter

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Issue XIX

Canadian PMRA Re-Evaluation of Metal Phosphides

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Milestones

Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) Re-Evaluation of Metal Phosphides

Phosphine registrants attended PMRA's Methyl Bromide Working Group Meeting in Toronto, Canada, on October 5th, 2010. The group allowed the registrants to present their perspective of PMRA's re-evaluation requirements for metal phosphides. Their requirements consist of:

1. Generate new toxicology data
 - This is estimated to cost approximately US \$4,000,000
2. Provide an ambient air monitoring study
3. Reduce worker exposure standards for phosphine from 0.3 parts per million (ppm) to 0.06 ppm
4. Improve technologies to reduce the detection limits of phosphine monitoring equipment
5. Add a 150 meter buffer zone around fumigated areas

Detia-Degesch is conducting an air monitoring study at the request of the European Union and PMRA has agreed to review its protocol. At this point, PMRA has agreed to place the toxicology studies and buffer zone on hold until the Detia-Degesch air monitoring study is complete.

PMRA has also agreed to an interim 0.1 ppm re-entry ceiling level but has removed all references to a 0.3 ppm 8-hour TWA from the label even though the Ontario Ministry of Labour accepts the 0.3 ppm TWA as their standard. The 0.3 ppm TWA is the accepted standard in the United States for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH). Should PMRA decide to accept the 0.3 ppm 8-hour TWA, this would also eliminate the requirement of finding a more sensitive method for the detection of phosphine and the 0.1 re-entry ceiling level.

The registrants discussed the fact the Canadian market does not warrant spending \$4,000,000 on additional toxicology studies and the consequences should phosphine not be registered in Canada. Some fumigators have attempted using the 0.1 ppm re-entry ceiling limit and have found that the fumigation times have doubled – another major concern.

The phosphine registrants' next step will be to submit the project plan to PMRA for the Detia-Degesch air monitoring study along with a letter from our consultants comparing the views on the toxicology data by PMRA's re-evaluation department.





Magtoxin® Prepac Spot Fumigant

- Always read and follow all Label and Applicator Manual instructions
- A written Fumigation Management Plan (FMP) is mandatory for all uses
- Magtoxin® Prepac Spot Fumigant is a “Restricted Use Pesticide”

Spot Fumigation as Part of an Effective IPM Program

The phase-out of methyl bromide as a space fumigant to control insect infestations in mill and food plant settings has created new opportunities for professional fumigators and facility operators to try other alternatives to large scale space fumigation. Sulfuryl fluoride applications, while not a true replacement for methyl bromide, have gained quite a bit of acceptance within the insect control community. Perhaps the biggest winner in the methyl bromide phase-out has been the re-emergence of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept on a much broader scale than had been previously seen. The desire to prevent infestation before it can occur and monitor plant processes to detect infestation as soon as possible is now more popular than ever.

The concept of Integrated Pest Management is not new. Long before there were pesticides, people were using sanitation and exclusion to prevent insect infestation of food stores and this trend continues today. Maintaining a clean environment both inside and outside a production or storage facility is perhaps the most economical way available to help prevent and control insect pests. The removal of insect harborage, whether spilled product or overgrown grass and weeds from areas outside a storage or manufacturing facility, is a proven way to prevent insect infestation. Insects, like all other species, require food in order to survive and reproduce. Remove the food supply and you remove the potential for insect infestation. Exclusion is also essential to any successful IPM program. Keeping doors and windows closed when not in use; making sure all doors and windows are equipped with functional screens; the use of light traps to lure insects away from doors and windows and the use of air curtains on frequently used doors all help keep insects on the outside where they belong.

Sanitation and exclusion should also be coupled with the application of residual insecticides and insect growth regulators (IGR's). When properly applied, residual insecticides and IGR's provide a barrier to insect migration and infestation. Application should be made on a regular basis. **Don't wait until an infestation is obvious!** The tremendous advances made in the last decade involving the use of IGR's can't be ignored. These “insect birth control” products are an extremely safe and reliable tool to help reduce insect populations. Another concept that has seen a resurgence in the post methyl bromide era is fogging. The Ultra Low Volume (ULV) foggers available for use today are a far cry from the thermal units used in the past. Fogging compounds such as Vapona® and synthetic pyrethrins offer the ability to suppress insect populations and often times can be combined with IGR's to achieve good control of insect populations.

The use of pheromone trapping systems to monitor insect activity is one more method to keep insect population under control. Segregating and monitoring incoming supplies helps insure you are not bringing unwanted pests in with raw materials. Monitoring manufacturing and storage areas is essential to knowing what insect pests are infesting your facility.

When insect infestation is discovered in production equipment or product transfer systems, spot fumigation is an option many professionals are turning toward. The ability to treat a few pieces of manufacturing equipment or conveying systems instead of an entire production facility offers many plant managers a flexibility that mass fumigation cannot match. Spot fumigation is the short-term treatment of food processing machinery and equipment for control of the adult and larval life stages of insects which infest food particles remaining within food processing machinery and equipment in the specific sites listed below:

- Empty Bins, Silos and Holding Tanks
- Elevator boots, heads, filters, conveyers, spouting and purifiers
- Food processing equipment, such as sifters, rollers, dusters
- Related equipment in mills, food and feed processing plants and breweries



Meetings & Conventions

2010 Annual International Research Conference on Methyl Bromide Alternatives and Emissions Reductions



November 2-5, 2010
Orlando, Florida, USA
DoubleTree at the Entrance to Universal Orlando
5780 Major Boulevard
Orlando, Florida 32819
Phone 1-800-327-2110

On Wednesday, November 3, Mike Holcomb of Technical Directions, Inc. will be presenting a paper he co-authored with Mike McLean of Degesch America, Inc. Their paper, “An IPM Approach to Methyl Bromide Replacement”, proposes that through the utilization of Integrated Pest Management techniques, including the judicious use of pesticides, food plant operators can eliminate their historical dependence on ever more costly and burdensome mass-fumigations to control their insect pests. The techniques highlighted will include: Sanitation, Exclusion, Inspection, Monitoring and the use of Spot Fumigants. The presentation will be one of more than 70 to be introduced at the 2010 Annual International Research Conference on Methyl Bromide Alternatives and Emissions Reductions in Orlando, Florida. **For additional information please visit: <http://mbao.org/>**

2011 Degesch America, Inc. Recertification School

Degesch America, Inc. Recertification School
Thursday, April 28, 2011
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
Staunton, VA

Planning for the 2011 edition of our annual training for pesticide applicators is already underway. The seminar is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2011. We will be returning once again to the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton, VA. Information concerning the agenda and conference registration will be posted on our website as it becomes finalized.

Grain Elevator and Processing Society (GEAPS)

**GEAPS Exchange 2011
Feb. 26 -Mar. 1, 2011
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon**

International Association of Operative Millers (IAOM)

**115th Annual Conference & Expo
May 2-6, 2011
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas**



Milestones

Congratulations



It's a Boy! Thomas Meave, Houston Division Manager and his wife, Maria, are the proud parents of their second child. Mason Conner Meave weighed in at 7 lbs, 1 oz and was born on August 24, 2010. Maria and Mason are both doing well.

Recognition



Vickie Miller, a member of the accounting staff for Degesch America, Inc. was recognized recently for 30 years service to the company. One of the original staff members at the Weyers Cave facility, Vickie works with the other members of the accounting staff to provide support for the sales and service operations of Degesch America, Inc. Vickie is pictured on the left receiving a plaque from Elwood Whitmore.

Condolences



It is with deep sorrow that I must report that Robert L. (Bob) Dove, our former plant manager, good friend and colleague, passed away on Friday, July 23, 2010. Sadly, Bob was only 71 years of age.

A memorial service was held Monday, July 26, at 2:00 pm at First United Methodist Church, 13902 Timber Way, Broadway, Va. 22815. Memorial contributions may be made to either First United Methodist Church (address above) or the Broadway Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 666, Broadway, Va. 22815.

Notes of condolence may be sent to his widow: Nancy Dove, 15138 New Market Road, Timberville, Va. 22853.