# Specialty Products Product Bulletin



Dow AgroSciences LLC

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# Fact Sheet for Vikane® Gas Fumigant (Sulfuryl Fluoride)

In the interest of Dow AgroSciences' commitment to product stewardship, this fact sheet is intended to provide basic information about the product and how it is used. If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. If you have questions about Vikane® gas fumigant (the fumigant used) or the procedures described, call the Dow AgroSciences Customer Information Center at 1-800-352-6776.

### WHY BUILDINGS ARE FUMIGATED

Insects that feed or tunnel into wood can seriously damage houses, apartments, and other dwellings or structures. Each year termites or other wood destroying insects damage more than 5 million homes. Other pests, such as bed bugs, may be dispersed throughout rooms and can be difficult to locate and control quickly and completely. Depending on the extent or location of the infestation, fumigation is the only total control method proven to eliminate certain infestations of wood destroying insects, bed bugs, and other structure-infesting pests.

## **HOW BUILDINGS ARE FUMIGATED**

Because Vikane is a gas, prior to fumigation, the structure is completely sealed. This serves to contain Vikane in the building so it can penetrate wood and building contents to thoroughly eliminate the pests. Depending on the construction of the building, the doors and windows may be sealed with tape and a plastic sheet, or the structure may be covered with a tarp. The building will remain sealed for 2-72 hours depending on the specifics of the job. Warning signs are posted around the building notifying people to keep out.

After the fumigation period is completed, a professional fumigator will aerate the structure using fans for a prescribed aeration period. Once the dwelling has been thoroughly aerated, the fumigator is required to measure the level of any fumigant remaining in the living space to ensure it is below the EPA approved concentration for reentry by the occupants. Extremely low levels of fumigant can remain for a short period of time in dead air spaces between walls and inside cabinets as well as porous materials such as furniture. The small amount of fumigant in these areas will continue to dissipate for a few hours after the fumigation but at levels well below the established safe reentry concentration. Your building will not be cleared for reoccupancy until it is safe to enter. The fumigator will post a notice on your building indicating the day and time for reentry. Structures can be occupied only when the concentration is 1 part per million or less (this represents a margin of safety – laboratory animals have been exposed to 100 parts per million for 2 weeks with no adverse effects.) Because Vikane is a true gas and not a vapor, aeration is rapid. Recent studies demonstrated that in most structures levels are less than 1 part per million after the prescribed aeration period and have no detectable levels of Vikane within 24 hours after the start of aeration.

Sulfuryl fluoride is a colorless, odorless gas, so a warning agent is added to the building that causes watery eyes and a scratchy throat. If you experience these symptoms in a structure that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

SULFURYL FLUORIDE (POTENTIAL HEALTH RISKS FROM OVEREXPOSURE) Sulfuryl fluoride is a gas and can potentially enter your body only through inhalation. Because it is a gas, it does not stay on dry surfaces; therefore, there is no exposure from touching treated surfaces.

Nervous system and respiratory irritation:

Overexposure to high levels of sulfuryl fluoride can result in nose and throat irritation and nausea. At high concentrations (such as those used during the fumigation) it can cause excess fluid in the lungs, sleepiness, pneumonia, and convulsions. These symptoms would be expected to appear within 8 hours after such an exposure. In the unlikely event you experience these symptoms in the building that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately. Consult your physician and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

#### Additional studies:

Sulfuryl fluoride has not been shown to cause birth defects in pregnant animals exposed under experimental conditions. In addition, current studies have demonstrated there are not mutagenic or genotoxic effects caused by exposure to sulfuryl fluoride.

## Safety Precautions and Homeowner Preparation

- Discuss the treatment program in advance with your pest control company so you fully understand what will be done and what you need to do.
- Carefully follow the instructions you are given about what items you are to remove from your building.
- Stay out of the treated building until it is cleared by your pest control company for reentry.
- If you are interested or concerned, you should ask your pest control company to show the records of how your building was aerated before it was cleared for reentry.
- You may wish to increase ventilation by opening doors and windows.

If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. Call the Dow AgroSciences Customer Information Center at 1-800-352-6776 if you need additional information or have questions concerning this product.



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## OCCUPANTS FUMIGATION NOTICE AND PESTICIDE DISCLOSURE

Job Address		Ci	ty
☐ Single family dwelling	☐ Multi-family units	Other	
Owner-Agent	Tel. No.	EMERGENCY TELE	PHONE
Occupant	TelNo	EMERGENCY TELE	PHONE
	t Control, Inc., 6160 Fairmount A Tel. # (619) 584-8155 FAX (61		
Fumigation Contractor		el. #	
Target pest(s)		ed bugs	
Fumigant: Sulfuryl Fluoride: Vil	kane ™		
Are you aware of any cond ments that would allow the structure? YES NO	passage of a fumigant from the	ducts, central vacuum systen e structure to be fumigated to	ns or any other construction ele- o any other adjacent or adjoining
CHLOR	OPICRIN WILL BE USED AS A W	ARNING AGENT WITH EITHER	FUMIGANT
DATES & DAY OF FUMIGATION	DATE	SINGES/Alternative date:	Initials
TOMIGATION	СПАГ	NGES/AITEMATIVE date	Initials
		READ CAREFULLY	
	MIGATED WITH LETHAL GASES O ON OR BEFORE ARRIVAL OF THE F		OVE. ALL PERSONS AND ANIMALS
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ( THE TIME AND DATE FOR SAF		G UNTIL THE FUMIGATION COM	PANY'S NOTICE IS POSTED GIVING
are registered and regulated by t nia Dept. of Pesticide Regulation on existing scientific evidence the	he Structural Pest Control Board, and and the United States environmental I	apply pesticides which are register Protection Agency. Registration is g se conditions are followed or that the	CALS. Structural pest control companies ed and approved for use by the Califor- ranted when the State finds that based he risks are outweighed by the benefits
in breathing, leave the structure	immediately and seek medical attenti pany. The warning agent, chloropicrin	on by contacting your physician or	movement, garbled speech or difficulty Poison Control Center [800] 876-4766 espiratory distress and vomiting. Entry
692-8499; for Application Inform	ny of the following: your pest control ation: County Agricultural Commission Evergreen St, Sacramento, CA 95815.	ner [858] 694-2739; and for Regula	Questions: County Dept. of Health [619 atory Information: Structural Pest Con
FOR HEALTH QUESTIONS:			dilla.
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER	POISON CONTROL CENTER	STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD
TELEPHONE # [619] 692-8499	TELEPHONE # [858] 694-2739	TELEPHONE # [800] 876-4766	TELEPHONE # [800] 737-8188
the fumigation, procedures for	of a copy of this document as well as leaving the structure, and the follow everse side of this form) & Fumigation	ring documents.	ns for the necessary preparations for
			ets away during the fumigation
close oil any open access to	the subarea to prevent pets fro	m entering.	
Other:		<del></del>	
Owner/Agent signature	Date	Occupant Signature	Date
Owner/Agent signature	Date	Occupant Signature	Date

Occupant Signature

Date