

## Section 1 - Identification of Chemical Product and Company

### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: Hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC Australia.

Not a Dangerous Good according to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

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**Substance:** MCPA is an aryloxyalkanoic acid derivative.  
**Trade Name:** Farnoz MCPA 500 Selective Herbicide  
**Product Use:** Agricultural herbicide for use as described on the product label.  
**Creation Date:** July, 2002  
**Revision Date:** November, 2003

## Section 2 – Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredients	CAS No	Conc, %	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
MCPA	94-74-6	50	not set	not set
Other non hazardous ingredients	secret	to 100	not set	not set

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that should not be exceeded for more than 15 minutes and should not be repeated for more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit, because of the rapid action of the substance, should never be exceeded, even briefly.

## Section 3 - Hazards Identification

**Risk Phrases:** R22, R38, R41. Harmful if swallowed. Irritating to skin. Risk of serious damage to eyes.

**Safety Phrases:** S20, S36, S24/25. When using, do not eat or drink. Wear suitable protective clothing. Avoid contact with skin and eyes.

**SUSDP Classification:** S6

**ADG Classification:** None allocated. Not a Dangerous Good.

**UN Number:** None allocated

### Emergency Overview

**Physical Description & colour:** Clear brown liquid.

**Odour:** ammoniacal odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** MCPA acid is harmful via ingestion, with reported oral LD<sub>50</sub> values for the technical product in rats ranging from 700 mg/kg to 1160 mg/kg and ranging in mice from 550 to 800 mg/kg. It is harmful via the dermal route as well, with reported dermal LD<sub>50</sub> values ranging from greater than 1000 mg/kg in rats to greater than 4000 mg/kg in rabbits. Symptoms in humans from very high acute exposure could include slurred speech, twitching, jerking and spasms, drooling, low blood pressure, and unconsciousness. irritating to eyes and skin, harmful if swallowed,

### Potential Health Effects

See section 11 for Chronic exposure studies.

#### Inhalation

**Short term exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. In addition, this product is unlikely to cause any discomfort or irritation.

#### Skin Contact:

**Short term exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. It should present no hazards in normal use. However, this product is a skin irritant. Symptoms may include itchiness and reddening of contacted skin. Other symptoms may also become evident, but all should disappear once exposure has ceased.

**Eye Contact:**

**Short term exposure:** Available data shows that this product is not harmful. However, this product is a severe eye irritant. Symptoms may include stinging and reddening of eyes and watering which may become copious. Other symptoms such as swelling of eyelids and blurred vision may also become evident. If exposure is brief, symptoms should disappear once exposure has ceased. However, lengthy exposure or delayed treatment is likely to cause permanent damage.

**Ingestion:**

**Short term exposure:** This product is harmful if swallowed. See symptoms above.

**Carcinogen Status:**

**NOHSC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NOHSC.

**NTP:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

**IARC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

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**Section 4 - First Aid Measures****General Information:**

You should call The Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia and is available at all times. Have this MSDS with you when you call.

**Inhalation:** First aid is not generally required. If in doubt, contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

**Skin Contact:** Quickly and gently, blot or brush away excess chemical. Wash gently and thoroughly with water (use non-abrasive soap if necessary) for 20 minutes or until chemical is removed. Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (e.g. watchbands and belts). If irritation persists, repeat flushing and obtain medical advice. Completely decontaminate clothing, shoes and leather goods before reuse or discard.

**Eye Contact:** Quickly and gently blot or brush away product. Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 20 minutes or until the product is removed, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto the face.

**Ingestion:** If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Wash mouth with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor.

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**Section 5 – Fire Fighting Measures**

**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire.

Fire decomposition products from this product may be toxic if inhaled. Take appropriate protective measures.

This product is likely to decompose only after heating to dryness, followed by further strong heating.

**Extinguishing Media:** Not Combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials.

**Fire Fighting:**

**Flash point:** Will not burn until water component is driven off.

**Upper Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Lower Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Autoignition temperature:** Does not burn.

**Flammability Class:** Does not burn.

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**Section 6 – Accidental Release Measures**

**Accidental release:** In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. Wear full protective chemically resistant clothing including face mask, face shield, gauntlets and self contained breathing apparatus. See above under Personal Protection regarding Australian Standards relating to personal protective equipment. Suitable materials for protective clothing include rubber, PVC. Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Absorb onto sand, vermiculite or other suitable absorbent material. If spill is too large or if absorbent material is not available, try to create a dike to stop material spreading or going into drains or waterways. Avoid using sawdust or other combustible material. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage, and dispose of promptly. After spills, wash area preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material enters drains, advise emergency services. Full details regarding disposal of used containers, spillage and unused material may be found on the label. If there is any conflict between this MSDS and the label, instructions on the label prevail. Ensure legality of disposal by consulting regulations prior to disposal. Thoroughly launder protective clothing before storage or re-use. Advise laundry of nature of contamination when sending contaminated clothing to laundry.

## Section 7 – Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this MSDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

**Storage:** This product is a Scheduled Poison. Observe all relevant regulations regarding sale, transport and storage of this class of poison. Make sure that containers of this product are kept tightly closed. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Materials to avoid" in Section 10. Some liquid preparations settle or separate on standing and may require stirring before use. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

## Section 8 Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

The following Australian Standards will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Industrial Clothing: **AS2919**, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

<b>Exposure Limits</b>	<b>TWA (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>STEL (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
Exposure limits have not been established by NOHSC for any of the significant ingredients in this product.		

The ADI for MCPA is set at 0.01mg/kg/day. The corresponding NOEL is set at 1.1mg/kg/day. ADI means Acceptable Daily Intake and NOEL means No-observable-effect-level. Values taken from Australian ADI List, January 2001.

**Ventilation:** No special ventilation requirements are normally necessary for this product. However make sure that the work environment remains clean and that dusts are minimised.

**Eye Protection:** Protective glasses or goggles must be worn when this product is being used. Failure to protect your eyes may lead to severe harm to them or to general health. Emergency eye wash facilities must also be available in an area close to where this product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** Prevent skin contact by wearing impervious gloves, clothes and, preferably, apron. Make sure that all skin areas are covered. See below for suitable material types.

**Protective Material Types:** We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, PVC.

**Respirator:** Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned above.

Eyebaths or eyewash stations and safety deluge showers should be provided near to where this product is being used.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Clear brown liquid.
<b>Odour:</b>	ammoniacal odour.
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	Approximately 100°C at 100kPa.
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	Approximately 0°C.
<b>Volatiles:</b>	Water component.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	2.37 kPa at 20°C (water vapour pressure).
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	1.12-1.14
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Completely soluble in water.
<b>pH:</b>	No data.
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Odour Threshold:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water distribution:</b>	No data
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	Does not burn.

## Section 10 – Stability and Reactivity

**Reactivity:** This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. However, if you have any doubts, contact the supplier for advice on shelf life properties.

**Conditions to Avoid:** This product should be kept in a cool place, preferably below 30°C.

**Incompatibilities:** strong oxidising agents.

**Fire Decomposition:** Carbon dioxide, and if combustion is incomplete, carbon monoxide and smoke. Hydrogen chloride gas, other compounds of chlorine. Water. Carbon monoxide poisoning produces headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, confusion, dimness of vision, disturbance of judgment, and unconsciousness followed by coma and death.

**Polymerisation:** This product is unlikely to undergo polymerisation processes.

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## Section 11 – Toxicological Information

**Toxicity: Acute toxicity:** MCPA acid is harmful via ingestion, with reported oral LD<sub>50</sub> values for the technical product in rats ranging from 700 mg/kg to 1160 mg/kg and ranging in mice from 550 to 800 mg/kg. It is harmful via the dermal route as well, with reported dermal LD<sub>50</sub> values ranging from greater than 1000 mg/kg in rats to greater than 4000 mg/kg in rabbits. Symptoms in humans from very high acute exposure could include slurred speech, twitching, jerking and spasms, drooling, low blood pressure, and unconsciousness.

**Chronic toxicity:** Dietary levels of approximately 50 mg/kg/day and 125 mg/kg/day over 7 months caused reduced feeding rates and retarded growth rates in rats. White blood cell counts and ratios were not affected, but some reductions in red blood cell counts and hemoglobin did appear to be associated with exposure to MCPA at oral dose levels of approximately 20 mg/kg/day. In the same study, oral doses of approximately 5 mg/kg/day caused increased relative kidney weights, and oral doses of approximately 20 mg/kg/day caused increased relative liver weights. Another study in rats showed no effects on kidney or liver weights over an unspecified period at oral doses of 60 mg/kg/day, but oral doses of 150 mg/kg/day did cause reversible increases in these weights over a course of 3 months. Very high dermal doses of 500 mg/kg/day caused reduced body weight, and even higher dermal doses of 1000 and 2000 mg/kg/day resulted in increased mortality and observable changes in liver, kidney, spleen, and thymus tissue.

**Reproductive effects:** A two-generation rat study at doses of up to 15 mg/kg/day affected reproductive function. Even smaller amounts of the compound were toxic to the foetuses. Dogs receiving relatively small amounts of MCPA (8 and 16 mg/kg) for 13 weeks showed adverse sperm and testes changes. It is unlikely that humans will experience these effects under normal exposure conditions.

**Teratogenic effects:** Offspring of pregnant rats fed low to moderate doses of MCPA (20 to 125 mg/kg) on days 6 to 15 of gestation, had no birth defects. However, when the ethyl ester form of MCPA was fed to pregnant rats (2 to 100 mg/kg/day on days 8 to 15 of gestation), cleft palate, heart defect, and kidney anomalies were observed in the offspring. Mice fed 5 to 100 mg/kg/day of MCPA on days 6 to 15 showed significantly reduced foetal weight and delayed bone development at the highest dose. Teratogenic effects in humans are unlikely at expected exposure levels.

**Mutagenic effects:** MCPA is reportedly weakly mutagenic to bone marrow and ovarian cells of hamsters, but negative results were reported for other mutagenic tests. It was negative in a bacterial test system (both with and without metabolic activation), negative in spot tests, and negative in host-mediated tests. It produced no detectable increase in chromosomal aberrations in house flies. Some irregularities occurred in gene transfer during cell division in brewers yeast, although at levels which caused massive cell death. It appears that the compound poses little or no mutagenic risk.

**Carcinogenic effects:** All of the available evidence on MCPA indicates that the compound does not cause cancer. Forestry and agricultural workers occupationally exposed to MCPA in Sweden did not show increased cancer incidence.

**Organ toxicity:** Target organs identified in animal studies include the liver, kidneys, spleen, and thymus. Farm worker exposure has resulted in reversible anemia, muscular weakness, digestive problems, and slight liver damage.

**Fate in humans and animals:** MCPA is rapidly absorbed and eliminated from mammalian systems. Rats eliminated nearly all of a single oral dose within 24 hours, mostly through urine with little or no metabolism. In another rat study, three quarters of the dose was eliminated within 2 days. All was gone by the 8 days. Humans excreted about half of a 5 mg dose in the urine within a few days. No residues were found after day 5. Cattle and sheep fed low to moderate doses of MCPA in the diet for 2 weeks showed no residues from levels less than about 18 mg/kg. The major metabolite of MCPA is 2-methyl-4-chlorophenol in the free and conjugated form, which is formed in the liver.

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## Section 12 – Ecological Information

**Effects on birds:** MCPA is moderately toxic to wildfowl; the LD<sub>50</sub> of MCPA in bobwhite quail is 377 mg/kg.

**Effects on aquatic organisms:** MCPA is only slightly toxic to freshwater fish, with reported LC<sub>50</sub> values ranging from 117 to 232 mg/L in rainbow trout. MCPA is practically nontoxic to freshwater invertebrates, and estuarine and marine organisms.

**Effects on other organisms:** It is nontoxic to bees, with a reported oral LD<sub>50</sub> of 104µg/bee.

### Environmental Fate:

**Breakdown in soil and groundwater:** MCPA and its formulations are rapidly degraded by soil microorganisms and it has low persistence, with a reported field half-life of 14 days to 1 month, depending on soil moisture and soil organic matter. Decreased soil moisture and microbial activity, as well as increased soil organic matter, will prolong the field half-life for MCPA. With less than 10% organic matter in soil, the compound is degraded in 1 day and, with greater than 10% levels in soil, it takes 3 to 9 days to degrade. The half-life is 5 to 6 days in slightly acidic to slightly alkaline

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soils. MCPA readily leaches in most soils, but its mobility decreases with increasing organic matter. MCPA and its formulations show little affinity for soil.

**Breakdown in water:** It is relatively stable to light breakdown, but can be rapidly broken down by microorganisms. In sterilized water, it takes about 5 weeks for half of the compound to degrade due to the action of sunlight. In rice paddy water, however, MCPA is almost totally degraded by aquatic microorganisms in under 2 weeks.

**Breakdown in vegetation:** MCPA is readily absorbed and translocated in most plants. It works by concentrating in the actively growing regions of a plant (meristematic tissue), where it interferes with protein synthesis, cell division, and ultimately the growth of non-resistant plants. It is actively broken down in plants, the major metabolite being 2-methyl-4-chlorophenol.

## Section 13 – Disposal Considerations

**Disposal:** Instructions concerning the disposal of this product and its containers are given on the product label. These should be carefully followed.

## Section 14 – Transport Information

**ADG Code:** This product is not classified as a Dangerous Good. No special transport conditions are necessary unless required by other regulations.

## Section 15 – Regulatory Information

**AICS:** All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are to be found in the public AICS Database.

## Section 16 – Other Information

Much of the Information in this MSDS came from Extoxnet, a Pesticide Information Project of Cooperative Extension Offices of Cornell University, Oregon State University, the University of Idaho, and the University of California at Davis and the Institute for Environmental Toxicology, Michigan State University.

**This MSDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.**

### Acronyms:

<b>ADG Code</b>	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail
<b>AICS</b>	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
<b>CAS number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Number</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOHSC</b>	National Occupational Health and Safety Commission
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>R-Phrase</b>	Risk Phrase
<b>SUSDP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs & Poisons
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

### Contact Points:

Call Farnoz on (02)9431 7800

Fax: (02)9431 7700 and ask for the technical manager.

Police and Fire Brigade:

Dial 000

Emergency contact:

1800 024 973 (24 hours)

**If ineffective:**

**Dial Poisons Information Centre  
(13 1126 from anywhere in Australia)**

The information contained in this Material Safety Data Sheet is provided in good faith and is believed to be correct at the date hereof. However, it is expected that individuals receiving the information will exercise their independent judgement in determining its appropriateness for a particular purpose. Farnoz Pty Ltd makes no representation as to the accuracy or comprehensiveness of the information and to the full extent allowed by law excludes all liability whatsoever, whether with respect to negligence or otherwise, for any loss or damage arising from or connection with the supply or use of the information in this Material Safety Data Sheet.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

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