

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE:

Hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC Australia

COMPANY DETAILS:

Syngenta Crop Protection Pty Limited
ABN 33 002 933 717
140-150 Bungaree Rd.,
PENDLE HILL, NSW, 2145

Telephone No.: (02) 9688 0444
24 Hours Emergency No.: 1 800 033 111

IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME: GRAMOXONE 250 HERBICIDE

Formulation type:	Aqueous concentrate	UN number:	3016
Active ingredients:	Paraquat dichloride	Dangerous goods class:	6.1 (toxic)
Product code:		Subsidiary risk:	none
Chemical type:	bipyridilium	Hazchem code:	2X
Poisons schedule:	7	Packing group:	III
		EPG/IERG:	6B5

USE: Herbicide for the control of a wide range of grasses and broadleaf weeds.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION/PROPERTIES

Appearance:	clear dark blue liquid	Flash Point:	not applicable (aqueous)
Odour:	obnoxious	Flammability:	not applicable
Boiling/Melting point:	100°C approx.	Combustibility:	non combustible
Vapour pressure:	not available	Solubility in water:	soluble
Specific gravity:	1.17 g/cm ³ at 20°C	Volatility:	not volatile

OTHER PROPERTIES

pH (1% aqueous):	5 – 6.5	Corrosiveness:	Corrosive
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INGREDIENTS

	CAS No.	Content (%w/v)
Paraquat (present as paraquat dichloride)	1910-42-5	23% (250 g/L)
Water	7732-18-5	> 60%
Emulsifiers	----	10 – 29%
Stenching agent	----	< 1%
Emetic	----	< 1%
Other ingredients determined not to be hazardous	---	< 1%

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

HEALTH EFFECTS

ACUTE TOXICITY

This product is **toxic** according to NOHSC Australia.

Ingestion: TOXIC. CAN KILL IF SWALLOWED

Rapid treatment is essential. The immediate effects of poisoning depend on the dose of paraquat absorbed into the blood.

Mild poisoning occurs at < 20 mg paraquat ion/kg body weight and the effects are vomiting and diarrhoea. Moderate to severe poisoning occurs at 20 – 30 mg paraquat ion/kg body weight and the effects are vomiting, abdominal discomfort, soreness and inflammation of the mouth, throat and oesophagus, difficulty in swallowing and, later, diarrhoea. Kidney and liver damage may appear 1 – 3 days after exposure. Can cause death by a delayed proliferating fibrosis of the lung within 1 – 3 weeks.

Lethal poisoning occurs at > 30 mg paraquat ion/kg body weight and the effects are nausea and vomiting, and can cause death by multi-organ failure and circulatory collapse within 48 hours.

The following acute oral toxicity results have been determined for the active ingredient of the product:

Paraquat dichloride: LD₅₀ rats = 112 – 150 mg/kg, LD₅₀ monkeys = 65 mg/kg

Skin contact: TOXIC

Contact with skin will result in moderate irritation. Can cause inflammation and in severe cases blistering of the skin. Contamination of the nails may cause white spots or in severe cases cracking and loss of the nail. Normal growth follows without delay. Intact skin is a very effective barrier to paraquat. Damaged skin removes the barrier and paraquat may be absorbed with effects as outlined above under "Swallowed".

The following acute dermal toxicity results have been determined for the active ingredient of the product:

Paraquat dichloride: LD₅₀ (rabbit)= 240 mg/kg

Eye contact: IRRITANT

Eye irritation may be delayed. May lead to ulceration of corneal and conjunctival epithelium giving rise to secondary infection. Although healing may be slow, the injury is superficial and with proper medical care will be complete, even in severe cases.

Inhalation: TOXIC

Highly toxic if inhaled. However, unlikely to be hazardous by inhalation because of low vapour pressure of the material at ambient temperature. Nose bleeding and soreness of the throat may result from spray mist or dust trapped on the nasal mucosa. Irritating to the respiratory system. Pulmonary oedema may occur up to 48 hours after exposure and could prove fatal.

This product contains a stenching agent to give an offensive smell. This has been done to reduce the likelihood of accidental ingestion. This stenching agent may cause headaches and nausea in some people when inhaled. The presence of this offensive smell in the air does not necessarily indicate the presence of paraquat.

Modelling predicted for intact human skin and diluted solutions that systemic toxicity would be unlikely, but the risk increased significantly with damaged skin or concentrated solutions.

The following acute inhalation toxicity results have been determined for the paraquat dichloride:

LC₅₀ = 0.5 – 1.5 µg/L/4hrs

CHRONIC TOXICITY

Studies in animals have shown that repeated doses of paraquat do not produce carcinogenic nor teratogenic effects or adverse reproductive effects. The dietary no effect level in the rat was 25 ppm of paraquat over 2 years.

The ADI (Acceptable Daily Intake) for humans (paraquat cation) is 0.004 mg/kg/day.

FIRST AID**OBTAIN IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION. SPEED IS ESSENTIAL.**

- Swallowed:** If poisoning occurs get to a doctor or hospital quickly, warning by telephone of the estimated arrival time so that treatment is not delayed. If more than 15 minutes from a hospital induce vomiting by tickling back of throat with a clean, blunt instrument (eg spoon handle) or using fingers in the throat or Ipecac Syrup APF. DO NOT delay the start of treatment.
- Eye:** Immediately irrigate with copious quantities of water for at least 15 minutes. Eyelids to be held open. Remove clothing if contaminated and wash skin. Urgently seek medical assistance. Transport to hospital or medical centre.
- Skin:** Immediately take off all contaminated clothing. Wash skin immediately with water followed by soap and water. If skin is damaged, the paraquat can be absorbed through the skin. Seek medical advice.
- Inhaled:** Remove victim from exposure – avoid becoming a casualty. Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Allow patient to assume most comfortable position and keep warm. Seek medical advice.

ADVICE TO DOCTOR

Rapid treatment is essential. Refer to “The Treatment of Paraquat Poisoning: A Practical Guide to Doctors” (1994 or later edition) – available at most major treatment hospitals, Poisons Information Centres and Syngenta Crop Protection Pty Ltd.

Treatment: Wash out stomach and test urine and gastric aspirate (if clear) for presence of paraquat. Give up to 1 litre of 15% aqueous suspension of Fuller’s Earth orally or via gastric tube, together with a suitable purgative (200 mL of an aqueous solution of mannitol). Repeat administration of absorbent plus purgative until absorbent is seen in stools. This should normally take between 4 and 6 hours after the start of treatment.

Do not use supplemental oxygen.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW THE LABEL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS**EXPOSURE STANDARDS**

There are no assigned values for this specific product, however, exposure standards for the active ingredient are as follows:

	TWA		STEL	
	ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Paraquat (respirable sizes)	--	0.1	--	--

As published by the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission –

TWA – the Time-Weighted Average airborne concentrations over an eight-hour working day, for a five-day working week over an entire working life.

STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) – the average airborne concentration over a 15 minute period which should not be exceeded at any time during a normal eight-hour work day. According to current knowledge these concentrations should neither impair the health of nor cause undue discomfort to nearly all workers.

These exposure standards are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept to as low a level as is workable. Exposure Standards should not be used as fine dividing lines between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

If the directions for use on the product label are followed, exposure of individuals using the product should not exceed the above standard. The standard was created for workers who are routinely, potentially exposed during manufacture of the product.

Re-entry Period - Do not enter treated areas without protective clothing (waterproof footwear, clothing and gloves) until spray has dried.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

In the workplace – ensure ventilation is adequate to maintain air concentrations of components below quoted Exposure Standards. Avoid generating and inhaling mists. Keep containers closed when not in use.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Orica Personal Protection Guide no. 1, 1998: Wear overalls, rubber boots, face shield, safety shoes, gloves (L), apron.

Manufacture, Packaging and Transport: Avoid skin and eye contact and the inhalation of vapour and mist. Wear overalls, face shield, elbow-length impervious gloves, splash apron and rubber boots. Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storing or re-using.

If inhalation risk of vapour or spray exists wear organic vapour respirator meeting the requirements of AS/NZ 1715 and AS/NZ 1716.

Preparation and Use of Product: Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. When opening the container and preparing product for use wear elbow-length PVC gloves and face shield or goggles. Do not work in spray mist. When there is a risk of exposure to spray mist wear a face mask or respirator covering nose and mouth and capable of filtering spray droplets. A high efficiency type particulate respirator is recommended, but in any event use a respirator meeting the requirements of AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716. After use and before eating, drinking or smoking, wash hands, arms and face thoroughly with soap and water. After each day's use, wash contaminated clothing, gloves and face shield or goggles. Obtain an emergency supply of Ipecac Syrup APF. Avoid contacting vegetation wet with spray, but if necessary to do so, wear waterproof footwear and waterproof protective clothing and gloves.

FLAMMABILITY

Product is non combustible.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION**STORAGE AND TRANSPORT**

For use by licensed pest-control operators or primary producers only. Store in the closed original container in a dry, cool, well-ventilated locked room or place away from children, animals, food, feedstuffs, seed and fertilisers. Do not store for prolonged periods in direct sunlight. **Do not put into drink containers.**

This material is a Schedule 7 Poison and must be stored, maintained and used in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Transport Classification – Road and Rail:

UN No.:	3016	Proper Shipping Name:	BIPYRIDILIUM PESTICIDES LIQUID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
Class:	6.1		(CONTAINS PARAQUAT)
Packing Group:	III	Hazchem:	2X

SPILLS AND DISPOSAL

In case of spillage it is important to take all steps necessary to:

- Avoid eye and skin contact.
- Avoid contamination of waterways and drains.

Procedure for spill:

- (1) Keep all bystanders away.
- (2) Wear full length clothing and PVC gloves to prevent skin and eye contamination.
- (3) Re-position any leaking containers so as to minimise further leakage.
- (4) Dam and absorb spill with an absorbent material (e.g. sand or soil).
- (5) Shovel the absorbed spill into drums.
- (6) Disposal of the absorbed material will depend upon the extent of the spill.
 - For quantities up to 50L of product bury in a secure landfill site.
 - For quantities greater than 50L seek advice from the manufacturer (use emergency contact number below) before attempting disposal. Contain in a secure location until disposal method is established.
- (7) Decontaminate the spill area with detergent and water and rinse with the smallest volume of water practicable.
- (8) For large spills clear area of all unprotected personnel. Rapid decontamination of paraquat is essential. Crystalline material from dried concentrate may become suspended in air causing irritation and nose bleeds. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and inhalation of mists and dust. If contamination of crops, sewers or waterways has occurred advise emergency services or State Department of Agriculture.
- (9) Remove and wash all protective clothing and equipment. Change contaminated clothing immediately. Launder as soon as possible. Shower, using liberal quantities of soap and water on completion of the mopping up operations.

Dispose of empty, used containers by:

- (a) Triple rinsing or preferably pressure rinsing containers with water. Add the rinsings to the spray tank. DO NOT dispose of undiluted chemicals on site.
- (b) If recycling, replace cap and return clean containers to recycler or designated collection point.
- (c) If not recycling, break, crush or puncture and bury empty containers in a local authority landfill. If no landfill is available, bury the containers below 500 mm in a disposal pit specifically marked and set up for this purpose clear of waterways, desirable vegetation and tree roots. Empty containers and product should not be burnt.

Returnable containers (110 L):

- (a) Empty contents fully into application equipment. Do not rinse.
- (b) Close all valves and return to designated collection point or Syngenta Crop Protection, Pendle Hill, Sydney for re-use.

FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD

Not combustible, however, following evaporation of aqueous component residual material may burn. On burning will emit toxic fumes. Fire fighters must wear self contained breathing apparatus if there is risk of exposure to products of combustion.

Suitable extinguishing media: Use water fog (or if unavailable fine water spray), foam, dry agent, (carbon dioxide, dry chemical powder).

OTHER INFORMATION

Ecological information: The active ingredient paraquat is toxic to aquatic organisms. 96hr LC₅₀ (rainbow trout): 55 mg/L (static). The 96 hr LC₅₀ (brown trout): 2.5 – 13 mg/L.

Paraquat is highly toxic to birds. The oral LD₅₀ for hens is 262 – 380 mg/kg.

Environmental fate: Distribution and persistence - paraquat is rapidly absorbed and deactivated by soil. There is no mobility in soil. There is evidence of photodegradation in air.

Regulatory information:

Hazard category:	T	Toxic
	Xi	Irritant
R-phrases:	R24/25	Toxic in contact with skin and if swallowed
	R37/38	Irritating to respiratory system and skin
	R41	Risk of serious damage to eyes
S-phrases:	S1/2	Keep locked-up and out of the reach of children
	S23	Do not breathe spray
	S36/37/39	Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection
	S45	In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show label where possible).

Note: This product is a registered agricultural chemical and must therefore be used in accordance with the container label directions. A comprehensive package of toxicological and environmental data for the active ingredients of this product has been submitted to the Federal health and environment authorities and has been evaluated by expert toxicologists and environmental scientists.

CONTACT POINT:	Regulatory Affairs Manager - Crop Protection - (02) 9688 0444
24 HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT:	1 800 033 111

This Material Safety Data Sheet summarises our best knowledge of the health and safety hazard information of the product and how to safely handle and use the product in the workplace. Each user should read this MSDS and consider the information in the context of how the product will be handled and used in the workplace including in conjunction with other products.

If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate risk assessment can be made, the user should contact this company.

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