

Poisons Schedules

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Poison scheduling provides a means of classifying poisons to identify the degree of control to exercise over their availability to the public. Many people think that the "S" schedule indicates an increasing level of toxicity. Although toxicity is one of the factors considered, and is itself a complex of factors, the decision to include a substance in a particular Schedule also takes into account many other criteria such as the proposed use, potential for abuse, safety in use and the need for the substance.

The National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee recommends the classification of substances into poisons schedules. The recommendations of this Committee are in most cases incorporated in the Tasmanian Poisons Regulations and the Poisons List.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF POISONS

Poisons are classified by listing in schedules as follows:

Schedule 1 Poisons. This schedule is not currently used.

Pharmaceutical Substances

Schedule 2 Poisons or Pharmacy Medicines for therapeutic use should be available to the public only from pharmacies, or where there is no pharmacy service available, from persons licensed to sell Schedule 2 poisons.

Schedule 3 Poisons or Pharmacist Only Medicines for therapeutic use, the safe use of which requires professional advice but which could be available to the public from a pharmacist or medical, dental or veterinary practitioners.

Schedule 4 Poisons or Prescription Only Medicines or Prescription Animal Remedies that should be used or supplied only under prescription from a medical, dental or veterinary practitioner.

Agricultural, Domestic & Industrial Substances

Unscheduled substances

Substances that are not scheduled are those considered by the National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee as not requiring control by scheduling based on the information available at the time of consideration. They are not considered to be poisons at the time of consideration. It is important to note that many agricultural chemicals are unscheduled substances.

Schedule 5 Poisons are substances with a low potential for causing harm, the extent of which can be reduced through the use of appropriate packaging with simple warnings and safety directions on the label.

Schedule 6 Poisons are substances with a moderate potential for causing harm the extent of which can be reduced through the use of appropriate packaging with simple warnings and safety directions on the label.

Schedule 7 Poisons are substances with a high potential for causing harm at low exposure and which require special precautions during manufacture handling, storage or use. These poisons should be available only to specialised or authorised users who have the skills necessary to handle them safely. Special regulations restricting their availability, possession, storage or use may apply.

AGVET CHEMICALS INFORMATION SHEET

Controlled Drugs & Prohibited Substances

Schedule 8 Poisons or Controlled Drugs are substances, which may produce addiction or dependence.

Schedule 9 Poisons or Prohibited Substances are substances for which the manufacture, possession, sale or use should be prohibited except in special circumstances.

Note:

Poisons scheduling can be based on the concentration, form or purpose of the substance or preparation.

eg. Fenvalerate is always Schedule 6. Diazinon dust (less than 2%) is Schedule 5 whereas all other Diazinon is Schedule 6.

The poison schedule of a formulated product is based on the concentration of the poison in the packaged product, not it's diluted form in the spray tank.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

All Agricultural chemicals are covered by the following classifications.

Unscheduled Substances include fly sprays, surface sprays, many home garden sprays and a number of agricultural chemicals including asulam, bitertanol, copper oxychloride, diphenylamine, diuron, iprodione, lime sulphur, linuron, metsulfuron-methyl, simazine, thiabendazole, trifluralin and triforine. Also included under this classification are fertilizers, common domestic substances such as most detergents, disinfectants, baking soda, and lubricants.

Although their labels do not require a signal heading, some labels may have "KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN" at the top of the front label.

Schedule 5 Poisons include kerosene, small packs of petrol, solvents, dishwasher detergent, swimming pool chemicals (chlorine), some home garden sprays and a number of agricultural chemicals. Their labels display the signal heading "CAUTION - KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN – READ SAFETY DIRECTIONS BEFORE OPENING OR USING".

Schedule 6 Poisons include a number of agricultural chemicals, industrial chemicals and solvents and some home garden insecticides. Their labels display the signal heading "POISON - KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN – READ SAFETY DIRECTIONS BEFORE OPENING".

Schedule 7 Poisons include some of the more hazardous agricultural and industrial chemicals. Their labels display the signal heading "DANGEROUS POISON - KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN – READ SAFETY DIRECTIONS BEFORE OPENING".

For further information, please contact:

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or write to:

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Tasmanian
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