



Black Scale Control on Olives in Victoria.

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Introduction

Black Scale is a pest that is of real concern for olive growers in many areas of Australia, including Victoria.

While a number of chemicals are registered for the control of scale insects, the off-label use of Schedule 7 Poison (Dangerous Poisons) insecticides containing the active ingredient *methidathion* to control Black Scale on olives is illegal in Victoria without a permit from DPI.

Victorian legislation

In Victoria, there are a number of agricultural chemicals that have usage restrictions and can only be used by authorised persons according to label directions. These chemical are referred to as 'restricted use' chemicals.

'Restricted use' chemicals are agricultural chemical products that:

- are Schedule 7 Poisons (Dangerous Poisons)
- contain atrazine, metham sodium, ester formulations of 2,4-D, 2,4-DB, MCPA and triclopyr.

Individuals who use 'restricted use' chemicals on their own property must hold a valid Agricultural Chemical User Permit (ACUP) or be working under the direct supervision of an ACUP holder.

Specified records must be made within 48 hours of using an agricultural chemical product, and kept for a period of two years. This applies to all agricultural chemicals used, including poison baits used for pest animal control. This requirement came into effect on 24 July 2007 and excludes the use of household or home garden products.

Different arrangements apply to DPI licensed spray contractors and chemical users operating within a recognised Quality Assurance (QA) program that requires chemicals to be used in accordance with label directions and is independently audited at regular intervals of less than two years.

'Restricted use' chemicals **MUST** be used in strict accordance with the label under Victorian law. The off-

label use of these chemicals is illegal unless the user holds a valid Section 25A Permit issued for the use by DPI. A Section 25A Permit is different from an ACUP (which only permits the on-label use of 'restricted use' chemicals), and is issued by DPI, not the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

APVMA permits

While there is an APVMA Off-Label Permit (PER6538) authorising the use of the *methidathion* insecticide *Supracide 400 EC Insecticide* for Black Scale control on olives in some States, this permit is **invalid** in Victoria.

In the States section of the PER6538 Permit, the following statement appears:

"States: ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, NT, WA (Note: Schedule 7 Poisons are 'specified chemical products' under Victoria's Control of Use legislation. These products must be used in accordance with the approved label unless a permit has been issued by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI). For further information please contact the Chemical Standards Branch, DPI)".

This statement acknowledges that in Victoria, Schedule 7 Poisons (Dangerous Poisons), such as *Supracide 400 EC Insecticide* **MUST** only be used in strict accordance with the label, unless the user holds a Section 25A (S25A) Permit issued by DPI. Application forms are available from the DPI Chemical Standards website at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards.

Further information

For further information on chemical use, permits or Control of Use legislation contact:

- DPI Chemical Standards website - www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards
- APVMA website - www.apvma.gov.au
- DPI Chemical Standards Officers
 North West
 Alan Roberts (03) 5430 4416
 Dave Rumbold (03) 5430 4806
 North East

Steven Field (03) 5824 5532

South West & Port Phillip West

Les Toohey (03) 5573 0715

Jo Robinson (03) 5355 0522

Gippsland & Port Phillip East

David Stewart (03) 9785 0173

Michael Laity (03) 9785 0191

The previous version of this Information Note was published in July 2005.

The advice provided in this publication is intended as a source of information only. Always read the label before using any of the products mentioned. The State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.