
FACT SHEET FOR VIKANE * (SULFURYL FLUORIDE)

In the interest of DowElanco's commitment to product stewardship, this fact sheet is intended to provide basic information about the product and how it is used. If you have additional questions about Vikane or the procedures described, call the DowElanco Customer Information Service 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 approximately 2 million homes. 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

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 thoroughly and 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 4-72 hours depending on the specifics of the job. Warning signs are posted around the building notifying people to keep out.

After the tarp or tape is removed, a professional fumigator will aerate the structure by opening the doors and windows: Fans may also be used to clear out the building. 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 should 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 5 parts 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 within 6 hours of clearing and have no detectable levels of Vikane within 24 hours after the start of aeration.