



## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

### Section 1 - Identification of Chemical Product and Company

United Farmers Co-operative Company Limited  
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**Substance:** Metolachlor is a chloroacetamide derivative.  
**Trade Name:** United Farmers Metolachlor 720 EC Herbicide  
**Product Code:** 56890  
**Product Use:** Agricultural herbicide for use as described on the product label.  
**Creation Date:** November, 2005  
**Revision Date:** November, 2005

### Section 2 - Hazards Identification

#### Statement of Hazardous Nature

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

This product does not meet the criteria of the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code. However, this is a C1 Combustible Liquid and for storage meets the definition of Dangerous Goods.

**Risk Phrases:** R43. May cause sensitisation by skin contact.

**Safety Phrases:** S25, S28, S36. Avoid contact with eyes. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of soap and water. Wear suitable protective clothing.

**SUSDP Classification:** S5

**ADG Classification:** None allocated. Not a Dangerous Good under the ADG Code.

**UN Number:** None allocated

### Emergency Overview

**Physical Description & Colour:** Clear amber liquid.

**Odour:** Hydrocarbon/solvent odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** Signs of human intoxication from Metolachlor exposure include abdominal cramps, anaemia, shortness of breath, dark urine, convulsions, diarrhoea, jaundice, weakness, nausea, sweating, and dizziness. Possible skin sensitiser.

### Potential Health Effects

See section 11 for Chronic exposure studies.

#### Inhalation

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. However product may be mildly irritating, although unlikely to cause anything more than mild transient discomfort.

#### Skin Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** Classified as a potential sensitiser by skin contact. Exposure to a skin sensitiser, once sensitisation has occurred, may manifest itself as skin rash or inflammation, and in some individuals this reaction can be severe. In addition product may be mildly irritating, but is unlikely to cause anything more than mild discomfort which should disappear once contact ceases.

#### Eye Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data shows that this product is not harmful. This product may be irritating to eyes, but is unlikely to cause anything more than mild transient discomfort.

#### Ingestion:

**Short Term Exposure:** Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. However, this product may be irritating to mucous membranes but is unlikely to cause anything more than transient discomfort.

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: United Farmers Metolachlor 720 EC Herbicide

This revision issued: November, 2005

Page: 2 of 5

## 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.

## Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredients	CAS No	Conc,%	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Metolachlor	51218-45-2	72	not set	not set
Liquid hydrocarbon		19	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 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 (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) 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:** Irritation is unlikely. However, if irritation does occur, flush with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 5 minutes or until chemical is removed.

**Eye Contact:** No effects expected. If irritation does occur, flush contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 5 minutes or until the product is removed. Obtain medical advice if irritation becomes painful or lasts more than a few minutes. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

**Ingestion:** If product is swallowed or gets in mouth, wash mouth with water and give some water to drink. If symptoms develop, or if in doubt contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

## Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** This product is classified as a C1 combustible product. There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire. Violent steam generation or eruption may occur upon application of direct water stream on hot liquids.

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

**Extinguishing Media:** Preferred extinguishing media are carbon dioxide, dry chemical, foam, water fog.

**Fire Fighting:** If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade.

**Flash point:** >63°C

**Upper Flammability Limit:** No data.

**Lower Flammability Limit:** No data.

**Autoignition temperature:** No data.

**Flammability Class:** C1

## 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 clothing including eye/face protection. All skin areas should be covered. See below under Personal Protection regarding Australian Standards relating to personal protective equipment. Suitable materials for protective clothing include rubber, PVC. Eye/face protective equipment should comprise as a minimum, protective glasses and, preferably, goggles. If there is a significant chance that vapours or mists are likely to build up in the cleanup area, we recommend that you use a respirator. Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned below (section 8).

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. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage, and dispose of promptly. Recycle containers wherever possible after careful cleaning. Refer to product label for specific instructions. After spills, wash area preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: United Farmers Metolachlor 720 EC Herbicide

This revision issued: November, 2005

Page: 3 of 5

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:** Note that this product is combustible and therefore, for Storage, meets the definition of Dangerous Goods in some states. If you store large quantities (tonnes) of such products, we suggest that you consult your state's Dangerous Goods authority in order to clarify your obligations regarding their storage. Protect this product from light. Store in the closed original container in a dry, cool, well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Incompatibilities" 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**.

### Exposure Limits

#### TWA (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)

#### STEL (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Exposure limits have not been established by NOHSC for any of the significant ingredients in this product.

The ADI for Metolachlor is set at 0.08mg/kg/day. The corresponding NOEL is set at 7.5mg/kg/day. ADI means Acceptable Daily Intake and NOEL means No-observable-effect-level. Values taken from Australian ADI List, Dec 2004.

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

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

**Eye Protection:** Eye protection such as protective glasses or goggles is recommended when product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** If you believe you may have a sensitisation to this product or any of its declared ingredients, you should 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: rubber, PVC.

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

Safety deluge showers should, if practical, be provided near to where this product is being used.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Clear amber liquid.
<b>Odour:</b>	Hydrocarbon/solvent odour/
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	178-210°C at 100kPa (solvent only)
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	No specific data. Liquid at normal temperatures.
<b>Volatiles:</b>	No specific data. Expected to be low at 100°C.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	No data.
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	1.05-1.06 at 20°C
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Emulsifiable.
<b>pH:</b>	No data.
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water Distribution:</b>	No data
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	No data.

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: United Farmers Metolachlor 720 EC Herbicide

This revision issued: November, 2005

Page: 4 of 5

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## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

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**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:** Protect this product from light. Store in the closed original container in a dry, cool, well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight.

**Incompatibilities:** strong acids, strong bases, strong oxidising agents.

**Fire Decomposition:** Carbon dioxide, and if combustion is incomplete, carbon monoxide and smoke. Nitrogen and its compounds, and under some circumstances, oxides of nitrogen. Occasionally hydrogen cyanide gas. 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 will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

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## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

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**Toxicity:** An information profile for Metolachlor is available at <http://extoxnet.orst.edu/pips/ghindex.html>

**Acute toxicity:** Metolachlor is harmful by ingestion. The reported oral LD<sub>50</sub> in rats for technical grade Metolachlor is from 1200mg/kg to 2780mg/kg. It is practically nontoxic by skin exposure, with a reported dermal LD<sub>50</sub> of greater than 2000mg/kg. Technical Metolachlor is a skin sensitizer in guinea pigs, and causes slight irritation and mild eye irritation in rabbits. The 4-hour rat inhalation LC<sub>50</sub> of greater than 4.3mg/L indicates slight toxicity via this route. Human exposure most commonly occurs through skin or eye contact. Signs of human intoxication from Metolachlor exposure include abdominal cramps, anaemia, shortness of breath, dark urine, convulsions, diarrhoea, jaundice, weakness, nausea, sweating, and dizziness.

**Chronic toxicity:** While Metolachlor is not readily absorbed by the skin, repeated dermal exposures may create skin sensitization, especially among those who work with Metolachlor. In rats fed Metolachlor for 90 days, no effects were noted at about 90mg/kg/day. In a 2-year study of mice, a similar no-effect level was found, but doses of about 300mg/kg/day caused decreased body weight gain.

**Reproductive effects:** In two long-term rat reproduction studies, mating, gestation, lactation, and fertility were not affected at doses of 50mg/kg/day. However, pup weights and parental food consumption decreased at this low dose. The evidence suggests that Metolachlor is not likely to have an effect on reproduction in humans under normal circumstances.

**Teratogenic effects:** Metolachlor caused no birth defects in rats at maternal doses of 300mg/kg/day administered during critical periods of gestation (organogenesis), although some delayed or abnormal development in offspring was seen at this dose. These data indicate that teratogenic and developmental effects in humans are unlikely at expected levels of exposure.

**Mutagenic effects:** Metolachlor tested negative in two bacterial assays. Also, no mutagenicity effects were noted in a standard mouse test. From this evidence it is unlikely that the compound is mutagenic.

**Carcinogenic effects:** Male and female mice exposed to doses up to 100mg/kg/day for 18 to 20 months did not develop cancer, nor did male rats at doses of up to 150mg/kg/day over a 2-year period. From these data, it seems unlikely that Metolachlor is carcinogenic in humans.

**Organ toxicity:** Exposure to Metolachlor can damage the liver and cause irritation of the skin, eyes, and mucous membranes. It has also caused skin sensitization in guinea pigs.

**Fate in humans and animals:** Studies show that orally administered Metolachlor is quickly broken down into metabolites and is almost totally eliminated in the urine and faeces of goats, rats, and poultry. Metolachlor itself was not detected in the urine, faeces, or body tissues.

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## Section 12 - Ecological Information

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This product is biodegradable. It will not accumulate in the soil or water or cause long term problems.

**Breakdown in soil and groundwater:** Metolachlor is moderately persistent in the soil environment. Half-lives of 15 to 70 days in different soils have been observed. Soils with significant soil water content may show more rapid breakdown.

**Breakdown in water:** Metolachlor is highly persistent in water over a wide range of water acidity. Its half-life at 20 C is more than 200 days in highly acid waters, and is 97 days in highly basic waters. Metolachlor is also relatively stable in water under natural sunlight.

**Breakdown in vegetation:** Metolachlor, applied before plants emerge, is absorbed through shoots just above the seed, and may be absorbed from the soil into and through the roots. This chemical acts by inhibiting the production of essential plant components like chlorophylls, enzymes, and other proteins. Metolachlor is a growth inhibitor affecting root and shoot growth after seeds have germinated.

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: United Farmers Metolachlor 720 EC Herbicide

This revision issued: November, 2005

Page: 5 of 5

## Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

**Disposal:** There are many pieces of legislation covering waste disposal and they differ in each state and territory, so each user must refer to laws operating in their area. In some areas, certain wastes must be tracked. The Hierarchy of Controls seems to be common - the user should investigate: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle and only if all else fails should disposal be considered. Note that properties of a product may change in use, so that the following suggestions may not always be appropriate. The following may help you in properly addressing this matter for this product. Special help is available for the disposal of Agricultural Chemicals. The product label will give general advice regarding disposal of small quantities, and how to cleanse containers. However, for help with the collection of unwanted rural chemicals, contact ChemClear 1800 008 182 <http://www.chemclear.com.au/> and for help with the disposal of empty drums, contact DrumMuster <http://www.drummuster.com.au/> where you will find contact details for your area.

## 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 compliant with NICNAS regulations. The following ingredients: Metolachlor, Liquid hydrocarbon, are mentioned in the SUSDP.

## Section 16 - Other Information

**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 Code</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

**National Poisons Information Centre: Dial 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia**

THIS MSDS 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 MUST REVIEW THIS MSDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This MSDS is prepared in accord with the NOHSC document "National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets" 2nd Edition [NOHSC:2011(2003)]

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