



MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Section 1 - Identification of Chemical Product and Company

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Substance: Paraquat is a Bipyridylum pesticide.

Trade Name: **United Farmers Paraquat 250 Herbicide**

Product Code: 58075

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.

Dangerous according to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

Risk Phrases: R26, R48/24/25, R36/37/38. Very toxic by inhalation. Toxic: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure in contact with skin and if swallowed. Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

Safety Phrases: S20, S23, S28, S38, S45, S60, S61, S1/2, S24/25, S36/37/39. When using, do not eat or drink. Do not breathe vapours or mists. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of soap and water. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment. In case of accident or if you feel unwell, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre immediately (show the label where possible). This material and its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Avoid release to the environment. Refer to special instructions/Safety Data Sheets. Keep locked up and out of reach of children. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection.

SUSDP Classification: S7

ADG Classification: Class 6.1 (BIPYRIDILIUM PESTICIDE, LIQUID, TOXIC)

UN Number: 3016

Emergency Overview

Physical Description & colour: Clear dark blue liquid.

Odour: Obnoxious pyridine odour.

Major Health Hazards: Effects due to high acute exposure to paraquat may include excitability and lung congestion, which in some cases leads to convulsions, incoordination, and death by respiratory failure. If swallowed, burning of the mouth and throat often occurs, followed by gastrointestinal tract irritation, resulting in abdominal pain, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea. Other toxic effects include thirst, shortness of breath, rapid heart rate, kidney failure, lung sores, and liver injury. Some symptoms may not occur until days after exposure. This product is toxic in contact with skin and if swallowed, irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

Potential Health Effects

See section 11 for Chronic exposure studies.

Paraquat is exceedingly toxic to humans. Many cases of illness and/or death have been reported. The lethal ingestion dose of Paraquat in humans is 35 mg/kg. A maximum of 3.5 mg/hour could be absorbed through the dermal or respiratory route without damage.

Inhalation

Short term exposure: Significant inhalation exposure is considered to be unlikely. Available data shows that this product is very toxic, but symptoms are not available. In addition product is an inhalation irritant. Symptoms may

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include headache, irritation of nose and throat and increased secretion of mucous in the nose and throat. Other symptoms may also become evident, but they should disappear after exposure has ceased.

Skin Contact:

Short term exposure: Available data shows that this product is toxic, but further symptoms are not available. In addition product is a skin irritant. Symptoms may include itchiness and reddening of contacted skin. Other symptoms may also become evident, but all should disappear once exposure has ceased.

Eye Contact:

Short term exposure: Exposure via eyes is considered to be unlikely. This product is an eye irritant. Symptoms may include stinging and reddening of eyes and watering which may become copious. Other symptoms may also become evident. If exposure is brief, symptoms should disappear once exposure has ceased. However, lengthy exposure or delayed treatment may cause permanent damage.

Ingestion:

Short term exposure: Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. Available data shows that this product is toxic, but further symptoms are not available. This product is unlikely to cause any irritation problems in the short or long term.

Carcinogen Status:

NOHSC: No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NOHSC.

NTP: No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

IARC: Pyridine is Class 3 - unclassifiable as to carcinogenicity to humans.

See the IARC website for further details. A web address has not been provided as addresses frequently change.

Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredients	CAS No	Conc,%	TWA (mg/m ³)	STEL (mg/m ³)
Paraquat dichloride	1910-42-5	250g/L	not set	not set
Pyridine	110-86-1	1-5	16	not set
Emetic		1-5	not set	not set
Other non hazardous ingredients		1-5	not set	not set
Water	7732-18-5	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: If inhalation occurs, contact a Poisons Information Centre. Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed. Remove source of contamination or move victim to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, oxygen may be beneficial if administered by trained personnel, preferably on a doctor's advice. DO NOT allow victim to move about unnecessarily. Symptoms of pulmonary oedema can be delayed up to 48 hours after exposure.

Skin Contact: Flush contaminated area with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 20-30 minutes, by the clock. DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING. If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (eg watchbands and belts). If breathing has stopped, trained personnel should begin artificial respiration or, if the heart has stopped, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) immediately.

Eye Contact: Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 20 minutes or until the product is removed, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto the face. Obtain medical attention immediately. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

Ingestion: If swallowed, rinse mouth thoroughly with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor at once. Give activated charcoal if instructed.

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Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

Fire and Explosion Hazards: There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire.

Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this products at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness.

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

Extinguishing Media: Not Combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials. water fog. Water fog or fine spray is the preferred medium for large fires. Ensure that no spillage enters drains or water courses.

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

Flash point: Does not burn.

Upper Flammability Limit: Does not burn.

Lower Flammability Limit: Does not burn.

Autoignition temperature: Not applicable - does not burn.

Flammability Class: Does not burn.

Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

Accidental release: In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. Evacuate the spill area and deny entry to unnecessary and unprotected personnel. Wear full protective chemically resistant clothing including eye/face protection, gauntlets and self contained breathing apparatus. 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. It should be fitted with a type G cartridge, suitable for agricultural chemicals. 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. Because of the toxicity of this product, special personal care should be taken in any cleanup operation. 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 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: This product is a Scheduled Poison. Observe all relevant regulations regarding sale, transport and storage of this schedule of poison. Store in a cool, well ventilated area. Check containers periodically for leaks. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Incompatibilities" in Section 10. If you keep more than 2500kg or L of Dangerous Goods of Packaging Group II, you may be required to license the premises or notify your Dangerous Goods authority. If you have any doubts, we suggest you contact your Dangerous Goods authority in order to clarify your obligations. 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
Pyridine

TWA (mg/m³)
16

STEL (mg/m³)
not set

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The ADI for Paraquat dichloride is set at 0.004mg/kg/day. The corresponding NOEL is set at 0.45mg/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: This product should only be used where there is ventilation that is adequate to keep exposure below the TWA levels. If necessary, use a fan.

Eye Protection: Protective glasses or goggles should be worn when this product is being used. Failure to protect your eyes may cause them harm. Emergency eye wash facilities are also recommended in an area close to where this product is being used.

Skin Protection: It is essential that all skin areas are adequately covered by impermeable gloves, overalls, hair covering, apron and face shield. See below for suitable material types.

Protective Material Types: We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, PVC.

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

Eyebaths or eyewash stations and safety deluge showers should be provided near to where this product is being used.

Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

Physical Description & colour:	Clear, dark blue liquid.
Odour:	Obnoxious odour.
Boiling Point:	Approximately 100°C at 100kPa.
Freezing/Melting Point:	Approximately 0°C.
Volatiles:	Water component.
Vapour Pressure:	2.37 kPa at 20°C (water vapour pressure).
Vapour Density:	No data.
Specific Gravity:	1.17 approx at 20°C
Water Solubility:	Completely soluble in water.
pH:	5-6.5 (1% in water)
Volatility:	No data.
Odour Threshold:	No data.
Evaporation Rate:	No data.
Coeff Oil/water Distribution:	No data
Autoignition temp:	Not applicable - does not burn.

Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

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: This product should be kept in a cool place, preferably below 30°C. Containers should be kept dry. Keep isolated from combustible materials. 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: Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this products at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness. 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. Hydrogen cyanide poisoning signs and symptoms are weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, coma, convulsions, and death. Death results from respiratory arrest. Hydrogen cyanide gas acts very rapidly; symptoms and death can both occur quickly.

Polymerisation: This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

Toxicity: Paraquat Dichloride: LD ₅₀ Oral, Rat 157mg/kg	LD ₅₀ Oral, Mouse = 104mg/kg
LD ₅₀ Oral, Guinea Pig = 22-42mg/kg	LD ₅₀ Oral, Dog = 25-50mg/kg
LD ₅₀ Dermal, Rat = 236-500mg/kg	

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Section 12 - Ecological Information

Paraquat Dichloride:

Birds: LD₅₀ hen: 262-380mg/kg

LD₅₀ bobwhite quail: 981mg/kg

LD₅₀ Japanese quail: 970mg/kg

LD₅₀ mallard duck: 4048mg/kg

Fish: LC₅₀ rainbow trout: 32mg/L

LC₅₀ brown trout: 2.15-13mg/L

Environmental fate:

Animals: In rats, following oral administration, 76-90% of the dose was excreted in the faeces, and 11-20% in urine.

Plants: On plant surfaces, photochemical degradation occurs. Degradation products which have been isolated include 1-methyl-4-carboxypyridinium chloride and methylamine hydrochloride.

Soil/environment: Clays and organic materials rapidly and strongly absorb paraquat, resulting in complete deactivation. Typical strong absorption capacities vary from 20-3000mg/kg soil depending on clay or organic material content. Desorption requires digestion with 12N sulfuric acid for several hours.

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: 3016, BIPYRIDILIUM PESTICIDE, LIQUID, TOXIC

Hazchem Code: 2X

Special Provisions: SP61, SP109, SP274

Dangerous Goods Class: Class 6.1, Toxic Substances.

Packaging Group: II

Packaging Method: 3.8.6

Class 6 Toxic Substances shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 1 (Explosives), 3 (Flammable Liquids where the Flammable Liquid is nitromethane), 5.1 (Oxidising Agents where the Toxic Substances are Fire Risk Substances), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides where the Toxic Substances are Fire Risk Substances), 8 (Corrosive Substances where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids), Foodstuffs and foodstuff empties. They may however be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes, 2.1 (Flammable Gases), 2.2 (Non-Flammable, Non-Toxic Gases), 2.3 (Toxic Gases), 3 (Flammable liquids, except where the flammable liquid is nitromethane), 4.1 (Flammable Solids), 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Substances), 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet Substances), 5.1 (Oxidising Agents except where the Toxic Substances are Fire Risk Substances), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides except where the Toxic Substances are Fire Risk Substances), 7 (Radioactive Substances), 8 (Corrosive Substances except where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids), 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods)

Section 15 - Regulatory Information

AICS: All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are compliant with NICNAS regulations.

The following ingredients: Paraquat dichloride, are mentioned in the SUSDP.

Section 16 - Other Information

This MSDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.

Acronyms:

ADG Code

Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail

AICS

Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances

CAS Number

Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number

Hazchem Code

Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters

IARC

International Agency for Research on Cancer

NOHSC

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

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NOS	Not otherwise specified
NTP	National Toxicology Program (USA)
R-Phrase	Risk Phrase
SUSDP	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs & Poisons
UN Number	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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