

Vikane®

FACT SHEET FOR VIKANE® GAS FUMIGANT (SULFURYL FLUORIDE)

SPECIALTY GAS FUMIGANT

VIKANE® GAS FUMIGANT

In the interest of Dow AgroSciences' commitment to product stewardship, this fact sheet is intended to provide basic information about the product and how it is used. If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. If you have questions about Vikane gas fumigant (the fumigant used) or the procedures described, call the Dow AgroSciences Customer Information Center 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 more than 5 million homes. Other pests, such as bed bugs, may be dispersed throughout rooms and can be difficult to locate and control quickly and completely. 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, bed bugs, and other structure-infesting pests.

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 and building contents to thoroughly 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 2-72 hours depending on the specifics of the job. Warning signs are posted around the building notifying people to keep out.

After the fumigation period is completed, a professional fumigator will aerate the structure using fans for a prescribed aeration period. 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 will 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 1 part 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 after the prescribed aeration period and have no detectable levels of Vikane within 24 hours after the start of aeration.

Sulfuryl fluoride is a colorless, odorless gas, so a warning agent is added to the building that causes watery eyes and a scratchy throat. If you experience these symptoms in a structure that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

SULFURYL FLUORIDE (POTENTIAL HEALTH RISKS FROM OVEREXPOSURE)

Sulfuryl fluoride is a gas that can potentially enter your body only through inhalation. Because it is a gas, it does not stay on dry surfaces; therefore, there is no exposure from touching treated surfaces.

NERVOUS SYSTEM AND RESPIRATORY IRRITATION

Overexposure to high levels of sulfuryl fluoride can result in nose and throat irritation and nausea. At high concentrations (such as those used during the fumigation) it can cause excess fluid in the lungs, sleepiness, pneumonia, and convulsions. These symptoms would be expected to appear within 8 hours after such an exposure. In the unlikely event you experience these symptoms in the building that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately. Consult your physician and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

ADDITIONAL STUDIES

Sulfuryl fluoride has not been shown to cause birth defects in pregnant animals exposed under experimental conditions. In addition, current studies have demonstrated there are not mutagenic or genotoxic effects caused by exposure to sulfuryl fluoride.

QUESTIONS

If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. Call the Dow AgroSciences Customer Information Center at 1-800-352-6776 if you need additional information or have questions concerning this product.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND HOMEOWNER PREPARATION

- Discuss the treatment program in advance with your pest control company so you fully understand what will be done and what you need to do.
- Carefully follow the instructions your are given about what items you are to remove from your building.
- Stay out of the treated building until it is cleared by your pest control company for reentry.
- If you are interested or concerned, you should ask your pest control company to show the records of how your building was aerated before it was cleared for reentry.
- You may wish to increase ventilation by opening doors and windows.

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Vikane is a federally Restricted Use Pesticide.

Always read and follow label directions.

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Whole-Structure Fumigation with Vikane® gas fumigant: What California Homeowners Need to Know

Drywood termites and termite damage can threaten the integrity of your largest investment — your home. What do you do when your pest management professional tells you that your home needs to be fumigated for drywood termites? Do not worry — you are not alone.

Millions of homeowners battle termite infestations every year, and many of their homes are treated by whole-structure fumigation with Vikane® gas fumigant.

The following answers to common questions about structural fumigation will provide peace of mind as you prepare your home for fumigation with Vikane, the most effective way to eliminate drywood termites.

What is the fumigation process?

The average fumigation is about 24 hours, followed by a minimum aeration period of 12 hours. Your professional fumigator tents your home with large tarps, prepares the interior, seals the tarps, and releases a warning agent (chloropicrin) into the structure. Then, your fumigator introduces Vikane through a special hose attached to a fumigant cylinder located outside your home.

Contained in the structure for a predetermined time, the fumigant penetrates deep into wood to eliminate drywood termites. After the fumigation is complete, your fumigator aerates and certifies the fumigant from your home, allowing you and your family to re-enter. Strategic placement of fans inside the structure draws fresh air through inlets placed in the tarps and aerates Vikane and the warning agent (chloropicrin) through ducting while tarps remain on the building.

What is Vikane® gas fumigant?

Vikane is a colorless, odorless gas that is non-detectable by people during fumigation, as well as non-staining, non-corrosive and non-flammable. As a gas, Vikane dissipates into the atmosphere and does not deplete the ozone.

What is chloropicrin?

Chloropicrin, a warning agent, is a colorless liquid with a strong odor, causing tearing of the eyes and throat irritation when used at low concentrations. Chloropicrin serves as a deterrent from early or accidental entry into a structure under fumigation. At the end of the fumigation, your fumigator aerates both chloropicrin and Vikane from the structure before allowing you to re-enter your home.

Did you know...?

*Millions of
homeowners battle
termite infestations
every year!*

What precautions are taken to help ensure my family's safety?

Your fumigator takes many precautions to help ensure the safety of you, your family, your pets and property before, during and after the fumigation process. For example, your licensed fumigator will:

- Release chloropicrin, the warning agent used with Vikane, to warn anyone against entry into the structure.
- Secure the doors on your home through the use of interior locks and additional locking devices.
- Use sophisticated equipment to detect when Vikane has aerated and the home is clear for re-entry.



Here is What You Need to Do

What do I need to do to prepare for fumigation with Vikane® gas fumigant?

In addition to the work performed by your fumigator, it is your responsibility to help prepare your home for the fumigation. Taking the following steps prior to fumigation helps ensure its success, resulting in the elimination of drywood termites from your home. Check with your fumigator for additional home preparation information.

The Day Before Fumigation

- Water the soil up to 18 inches from the outer walls of your home to protect outdoor plants and shrubs.
- Cut back foliage, shrubbery and landscaping at least 18 inches from the structure to allow room for the tarps.
- Remember to make arrangements for overnight accommodations for you and your pets, as the fumigation will typically take two days.
- Please keep in mind the fumigation may need to be rescheduled if the weather is uncooperative. High winds and rain may hinder a fumigation and cause potential danger to fumigators.

The Day of Fumigation

- Remove all plants from your home, including those on outdoor patios.
- Evacuate all people and pets from the structure.
- Remove mattresses completely enveloped in plastic, such as baby mattresses with waterproof covers, or remove or open the covers.
- Remove or double-bag any food, feed, drugs (including tobacco products) and medicinals in special Nylofume bags your fumigator provides. You do not need to bag or remove items in plastic, glass, or metal bottles, cans or jars with the original manufacturer's seal intact (see sidebar).
- Seal the Nylofume bags one at a time by twisting the tops, or folding down and sealing with tape, twisty ties, string or rubber bands. **DO NOT TIE THE BAGS IN A KNOT.** Your fumigator can provide special instructions on proper bagging procedures for you.
- Double-bag cold and frozen foods and leave them in the refrigerator and freezer. Remove shelves from the refrigerator and freezer to make it easier to stack the bags inside.
- Be sure to remove or double-bag anything that will be ingested (medicine, spices, etc.).

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After The Fumigation

- It is **unnecessary** to wash dishes, linens, clothing, etc., as Vikane is a gas and will dissipate from the structure.
- Remember, once your fumigation is complete, all termites in your structure should be eliminated.

If you have any questions about how to prepare your home for fumigation, please contact your fumigator.

Ask your fumigator to help you determine additional items that need to be double-bagged or removed prior to fumigation. A good rule of thumb is "When in doubt, take it out." Here are some examples.

Double-bag or remove these items:

- Chips, pasta, rice and other foods packaged in plastic bags
- Cereals, crackers and other foods packaged in cardboard boxes (even if the boxes have never been opened)
- Spices, salt and pepper shakers, and other items where the seal has been broken
- Eggs
- Butter, cream cheese and any other items stored in a resealed container, including items stored in Tupperware containers
- Fruits and vegetables
- Bags of pet food and bird seed, as well as opened cans



You **DO NOT** need to bag or remove these items:

- Ice and water
- Unopened cans (including home-canned goods)
- Cosmetics, such as lipstick; shampoo, soaps
- Dental hygiene products (including toothpaste, mouthwash, dental adhesives, and dental whitening products)
- All externally applied lotions and ointments
- Unopened soda cans and glass bottles
- Unopened bottles of liquor and wine (stored horizontally)

To Remove Or Not To Remove... That Is The Question.

Protecting consumable items like food, feed and medicine is part of the fumigation process with Vikane® gas fumigant. However, from time to time questions arise about which items need to be removed from a structure or double-bagged in NYLOFUME® bags, and which items can remain in the structure un-bagged during the fumigation. Here are some examples to guide you as you prepare your home for fumigation.

Remove or Bag These...



Aspirin, vitamins, and all other medications that are ingested through the mouth must be removed or bagged.



Bag or remove store bought & rolled cigarettes, cigars, and all other types of tobacco.



Rice, pasta, potato chips, pretzels and other foods packaged in plastic bags need to be bagged or removed



Animal feed, like human food needs to be bagged or removed. This includes wild & domestic birdseed.



Foods package in cardboard boxes or bags, like cereal, crackers, cookies and creamer must be bagged or removed (even if the boxes have never been opened).



Spices in glass or plastic containers, without their original manufacturer's airtight seal intact must be bagged or removed.



Eggs, fruits, and vegetables must be bagged or removed.



Butter, cream cheese, yogurt, cottage cheese, and any other items in similar re-sealable containers, including Tupperware and other like storage containers, should be bagged or removed because they do not form airtight seals.

No Need To Remove or Bag These...



Unopened plastic soda and water bottles with manufacturer's airtight seal intact may remain un-bagged. Shake the soda bottles to verify that the airtight seal is still intact.



Unopened bottles of liquor and wine (stored horizontally) may also remain un-bagged and in the property.



Unopened cans (including home canned goods) and glass jars like soup and soda cans may remain un-bagged and inside as long as their original manufacturer's airtight seal is still intact.



Cosmetics including lipsticks may remain un-bagged and in the property. Products like shampoos and soaps and all externally applied lotions and ointments may also remain un-bagged and in the property.



Dental hygiene products (including toothpaste, mouthwash, dental adhesives, dental whitening products, etc.) may remain un-bagged and in the property

Ice and opened bottled drinking water may remain un-bagged and in the property.

When In Doubt, Take It Out...

If there is any question as to the seal on an item, the best approach is to take it out of the structure.

If you have any questions about what items should be bagged, please contact
Driskell Fumigation Inc. at 408-920-6353 or email us: e-mail@driskellfumigation.com.

Vikane®

KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO BE BAGGED

SPECIALTY GAS FUMIGANT

Thank you for choosing Vikane® gas fumigant, the treatment that is proven to rid your home of drywood termites. Now that you have chosen whole-structure fumigation with Vikane, certain steps must be taken to keep food items and other perishable goods protected during the fumigation process. It is important to know exactly which household items need to be double-bagged in special Nylofume® bags.

Sealed items that will NOT require bagging:

- Any food, feed, drugs (including tobacco products) and medicinals if sealed in glass, plastic or metal bottles, jars or cans with the original manufacturer's airtight seal intact.

Opened items that will NOT require bagging:

- Dental hygiene products (including toothpaste, mouthwash, dental adhesives, and dental whitening products)
- Cosmetics, including lipstick, and all externally applied lotions and ointments
- Ice and water

Do not forget those items in refrigerators and freezers.

When in doubt, take it out.

Any products not listed above that may require protection should be bagged or removed from the structure being fumigated. If you have any questions about what should be bagged, please contact your local professional pest management company at:

SAMPLE ITEMS THAT MUST BE BAGGED OR REMOVED FROM THE STRUCTURE BEING FUMIGATED.



Any food, feed, drugs and medicinals if not sealed in glass, plastic or metal bottles, jars or cans with the original manufacturer's airtight seal intact.



Chips, pasta, bread, cereals, rice, cookies, crackers and any other items packaged in plastic, paper or cardboard bags or boxes, even if they have never been opened.



Beverages, snacks, sauces, drugs, medicinals or other items in metallic foil-lined containers such as pouches, boxes or blister packs.



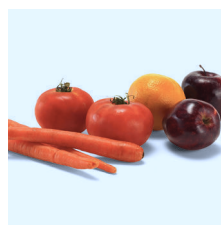
Medicine, tobacco, vitamins and other ingestible pills, supplements and lozenges if not sealed in glass, plastic or metal jars or cans with the original manufacturer's seal intact.



Anything in resealable containers, including plastic containers, such as milk, butter, sour cream and cottage cheese.



Pet food and animal feed in bags and boxes.



Eggs, fruits, vegetables and any other forms of produce.

VIKANE® BAGGING INSTRUCTIONS

Nylofume® bags: The trusted way to protect food, feed, drugs and medicinals from fumigations with Vikane® gas fumigant.

Nylofume bags are made from a special nylon polymer film. Research has shown that these nylon polymer bags are very effective for protecting a wide variety of commodities from Vikane fumigations when used one inside the other. The Nylofume bags should be “doubled-up” before you fill them with items that need protection.

All items such as food, feed, drugs and medicinals not adequately packaged (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) must either be removed from the structure being fumigated or sealed in the protective Nylofume bags.



1. While bags are still empty, place one inside another.



2. Place items inside the inner bag. Do NOT overfill — leave clearance on top for closure of the bags.



3. Twist the top of the inner bag, fold once and secure the fold in place using tape or a twist tie.



4. Repeat Step 3 with the outer bag.



5. Check the seal by pressing gently against the sides of the bag and listening for air leaks. No air should be able to escape.

Important: Keep these and other such bags out of the reach of children.

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EXTERIOR PREPARATION FOR FUMIGATION

Our prep department will be at the property at the time of the fumigation to complete the following steps to prepare the outside of the structure for the fumigation. You do not have to be at the property for this, it's just FYI so no one is alarmed when one of our team members is seen on the property. We will also put everything back the way it was after the fumigation is completed (by the safe for re-entry date or the day after).*

1. **Plants, Bushes, Vines, Weeds and Hedges.** All vegetation and ground cover must be trimmed, removed and/or pulled back at least 1 foot away from the structure(s), until bare dirt and/or cement is exposed. *(Homeowner/occupant/agent is responsible for the transplanting of any and all plant life growing within an atrium, overhang, patio cover, deck area, planter box, and/or any other similar structural feature.)*
2. **Trees.** Trim tree limbs away from roof and eaves to allow at least 1 foot clearance from the structure.
3. **Decorative Rocks and Bark.** All items must be raked back away from the structure(s) at least 1 foot out and deep enough to expose bare dirt.
4. **Antennas, flood light bulbs, light fixtures, weather vanes and chimney spark arrestors.** If any of these items may come into contact with the tent, they must be disconnected and COMPLETELY removed from the roof of the structure, unless otherwise specified. Items may be reattached upon completion of fumigation. *(Satellite dishes such as those provided by DirectTV or DishNetwork will be wrapped around so they do not have to be detached. There are some antennas that we may also be able to wrap around so they do not have to be detached).*
5. **Fence Boards.** Remove 3-4 fence boards or the entire section of fence if it is less than 1 foot away from the structure.
6. **Soaking the soil.** Heavily water all soil within 1 foot of the structure.
7. **Drain pipes.** Detach all drain pipes that lead into the ground (also known as "French drains") and tape off at ground level to ensure gas does not escape down the drain during fumigation.
8. **Potted plants.** Remove all potted plants around the structure, including those on decks and patios.



**Note: Listed above is an overview of what must be completed to allow the fumigation to be performed.*

Some or all steps may pertain to your property.

(To be completed by the Driskell Fumigation Prep Department, unless specified otherwise)

Stored Items & Debris. Any items and/or debris stored against or within 1 foot of the structure to be fumigated must be moved at least 3 to 5 feet away from the structure by the owner/occupant/agent.

Please call our office at (408) 920-6353, if you have any questions/concerns regarding the process.