

Fact Sheet for Vikane[®] Gas Fumigant (Sulfuryl Fluoride)

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 and 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.

Safety Precautions and Homeowner Preparation

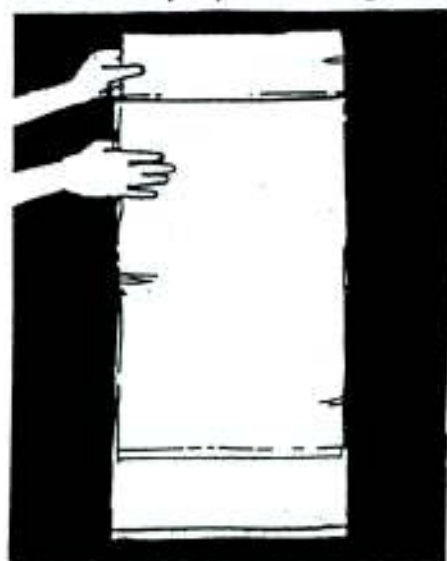
- Discuss the treatment program in advance with your pest control company so you fully understand what will be done and what you need to do.
- Carefully follow the instructions you are given about what items you are to remove from your building.
- Stay out of the treated building until it is cleared 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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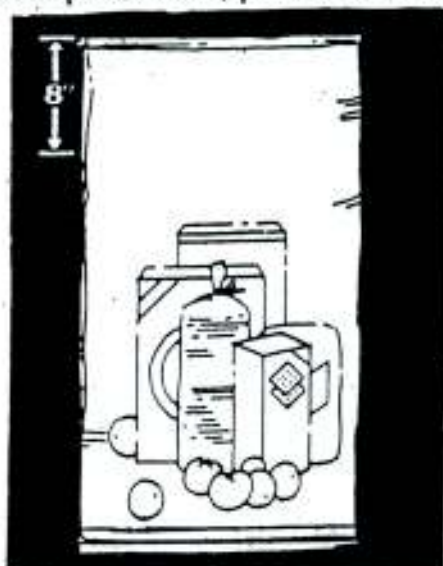
How to use NYLOFUME® bags to protect food and other commodities during fumigations with VIKANE® gas fumigant.

NYLOFUME® bags are made from a special nylon polymer film. Research has demonstrated that double-bagging, as shown below, achieves optimum protection. All items such as food, feed, drugs and medicinals (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) must either be removed from the structure being fumigated or sealed in protective bags such as NYLOFUME®.

To assure proper sealing and good protection, please follow these instructions carefully:



1. While bags are still empty, place one inside another. Double bagging helps assure effective protection.



2. Place items to be protected inside the inner bag. Do not overfill—leave clearance on top for adequate closure of the bags.

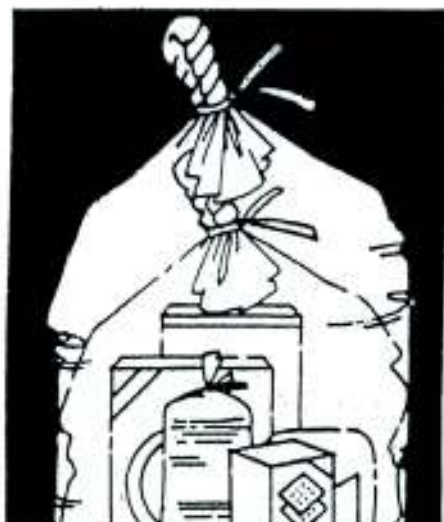


3. Twist the top of the inner bag, fold once and secure the fold in place using a suitable fastener such as a twist tie, tape, rubber band or string.

IMPORTANT: Keep these and other such bags out of children's reach.



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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.

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To Bag Or Not To Bag ... *That is the question.*

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

Bag these...



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.



Foods packaged in cardboard boxes, like cereal, need to be bagged or removed because the interior plastic bag may not be airtight.



Spices without their original manufacturer's airtight seal intact must be bagged or removed.



Eggs must be bagged or removed from the structure.



Aspirin and other similar ingestible medicines need to be bagged or removed.



Cottage cheese should be bagged or removed because resealable containers, including Tupperware and other storage containers, do not form airtight seals.



Ice cubes should be discarded before the fumigation and the icemaker turned off.

No need to bag these...



Unopened 2-liter plastic bottles with manufacturer's airtight seal intact can remain unbagged. Shake 2-liter bottles to confirm that the airtight seal is still intact.



Canned products like soup may remain unbagged because unopened metal cans provide an airtight seal.

When in doubt, take it out.

If there's any question as to the seal on an item, the best approach is to take it out of the structure to be fumigated or double bag it.

If you have any questions about what items should be bagged, please contact your local professional pest control company at Mt. Helix Pest Control: 619-584-6794

FUMIGATION PREPARATION PROCEDURES



1. ALL PERSONS, PETS AND PLANTS **MUST** BE TAKEN OUT OF THE STRUCTURE.
2. FOOD AND MEDICINES NOT IN FACTORY SEALED CANS OR BOTTLES **MUST** BE PLACED IN SPECIAL NYLOFUME BAGS.
3. THESE ARE THE MOST COMMON AREAS WITH ITEMS THAT NEED TO BE BAGGED:
 - ❑ REFRIGERATOR & FREEZER
 - ❑ ALL CUPBOARDS/PANTRIES WITH CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS
 - ❑ MEDICINE CABINETS
4. **ALL THESE ITEMS MUST BE DOUBLE BAGGED AND DOUBLE SEALED:** MEATS, DAIRY PRODUCTS, FRESH AND FROZEN VEGGIES, BOXED PRODUCTS, PLASTIC BAGGED ITEMS AND VACUUM SEALED PRODUCTS, ETC. YOU MAY PUT ITEMS BACK INTO THE REFRIGERATOR & FREEZER AFTER DOUBLE BAGGING AND SEALING. YOUR CUPBOARD, PANTRY AND MEDICINE CABINET ITEMS ALL CAN BE PLACED ON TABLES, COUNTERS OR FLOORS IF THEY DO NOT FIT BACK INTO CUPBOARDS, ETC.
5. **ONLY FACTORY SEALED CANS AND BOTTLES DO NOT GO INTO BAGS,** I.E., ALL CANNED PRODUCTS (SOUPS, SODA'S, BOTTLED WATER, UNOPENED BOTTLES OF SALAD DRESSING, ETC.
6. IT IS IMPORTANT TO **CHECK ALL DRAWERS AND CUPBOARDS.** CONSUMABLE ITEMS MUST BE DOUBLE BAGGED AND SEALED: LOOSE CANDY, GUM, MINTS, ALSO COUGH DROPS, COUGH MEDICINES, SPICES, ETC.
7. THERE IS **NO NEED** TO BAG ANY CLOTHING, DISHES OR KITCHEN APPLIANCES.
8. **VEHICLE'S** IN A GARAGE OR PARKING STRUCTURE MUST BE REMOVED. OTHERWISE, THE VEHICLES HAVE TO HAVE WINDOWS AND TRUNKS LEFT OPEN.
9. IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT **BABY MATTRESSES** BE REMOVED FROM THE STRUCTURE PRIOR TO THE FUMIGATION BECAUSE IT IS SEALED WITH PLASTIC. **FUMIGATORS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEMS REMOVED, BAGGED, OR MISSED.**
10. GENERAL RULE: **"WHEN IN DOUBT, BAG IT"**

PLEASE DO NOT TIE THE TOPS OF BAGS!

TYING THE TOPS OF BAGS DOES NOT PROVIDE A SAFE SEAL!