



COSHH SAFETY ASSESSMENT- ECOPLUG MAX®







INTRODUCTION:

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations, (COSHH), 2004 come under the Health and Safety at work Act 1974 and as such give a legal duty to anyone working with hazardous substances to evaluate the risk to health and to eliminate or adequately control such risks.

HAZARD – The intrinsic potential of a substance to cause harm.

RISK - The likelihood of harm being caused in the actual circumstances of use.

Some pesticides are classed as hazardous; some are not but a COSHH assessment should always be carried out. In gaining Approval from the Chemicals Regulatory Directorate the hazards of a pesticide are evaluated and appear on the label, but it is the way the product is used which determines the risk involved and is the reason why each use needs a separate assessment.

- Ecoplug Max does not contain ingredients classed as hazardous but its use must still be evaluated under COSHH.
- You should always choose the safest product available.
- By carrying out a COSHH assessment you demonstrate you have thought through fully the safety aspects of your weed control operations. You must know why you have chosen Ecoplug Max rather than any other method of weed control.

The following information about Ecoplug Max will help in conducting a COSHH assessment. Once written it will only need to be repeated if circumstances change, however it must be reviewed at least every 5 years and preferably annually. More details are included in The Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products, 2006.

PRODUCT DETAILS

MAPP number: 17581

79 % w/w of the ammonium salt of glyphosate, (CAS No.40465-66-5)

Containing: 720g/kg of glyphosate

Surfactants: 12%

Minor formulating ingredients: 8.5 %

PRODUCT TOXICITY KEY FACTS

A Full Material Safety Data Sheet is available from your distributor or from Monsanto.

SUMMARY

Hazard Rating (CLP) - Signal words and symbols. NONE

H412- Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

The active ingredient in Ecoplug Max is not classified, but engineering controls in the design of the plug ensure there is no potential for operator contact with any part of the body during normal use.

The Ecoplug Max concentrate may be harmful to aquatic organisms if large quantities entered a watercourse but engineering controls in the design of the plug ensure there is no risk of contamination of surface water or ditches with the product during normal use.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT TOXICITY

Acute Oral Toxicity:

- World Health Organisation (WHO) toxicity rating – not classified. Glyphosate is practically non-harmful by ingestion.

Acute Dermal Toxicity:

- World Health Organisation (WHO) toxicity rating – not classified. Glyphosate is practically non-harmful by skin absorption.

Acute Inhalation:

No risk in normal use situations.

Sensitisation:

No risk from glyphosate which does not cause allergic reactions.

The product does contain trace levels of sodium sulphite. A very small percentage of particularly sensitive people with hypersensitivity to sulphiting agents, may suffer allergic reaction if exposed to the granules.

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE STANDARD

There is no OES and no specified need to monitor the health of users of Ecoplug Max.

CHRONIC TOXICITY: ACTIVE INGREDIENT - GLYPHOSATE

The results of longer term studies which assess the risk of long term low dose exposure show that glyphosate is:

- NOT MUTAGENIC
- NOT CARCINOGENIC
- NOT TERATOGENIC
- NO REPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS
- NOT A CHOLINESTERASE INHIBITOR

The data from extensive studies confirm that if used according to the label instructions, Ecoplug Max does not constitute a hazard to human health.

PRACTICAL GUIDANCE TO AVOID EXPOSURE

1. DO NOT OPEN THE ECOPLUG MAX PLUGS. Store sealed in plastic bag and outer packaging until used up.

2. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The design of the plug integrates engineering controls, thus replacing the need for PPE normally advised when in contact with a herbicide. However the Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products suggests the following basic PPE of coverall, suitable protective gloves and boots should always be used as good hygiene practice when using any PPP:

Suitable protective coverall: (e.g. Tyvek disposable overall)
Suitable protective gloves: e.g. Rubber or nitrile. (0.5mm thick EN374).
Wellingtons. For some sites like forestry or building sites where safety boots are required water repellent boots complying with BS EN ISO 20345:2004 are also suitable.

EMPTY OUTER PACKAGING

Empty cardboard packaging can be disposed of in the standard cardboard waste stream and the inner plastic bag in the standard mixed waste stream.

IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL SPILLAGE FROM BURST ECOPLUGS

- First Aid: Skin; Wash with plenty of water.

Contaminated clothing; Remove and wash before reuse. Eye contact; Immediately rinse with plenty of water

Cleaning up:

Wearing gloves and a coverall, sweep or dig up affected soil & shovel into suitable plastic container, label and seal. Empty plugs can be disposed of non-hazardous industrial waste.