

POISONS CONTROL INFORMATION SHEET

POSSESSION AND USE OF A SCHEDULE 7 SUBSTANCE

No. 314

The Department of Health and Families does not promote the use of poisons. Our role is to ensure that use of poisons does not cause injury to human health or to the environment. Using poisons correctly protects your health, the health of your family and workmates, your livelihood, and the environment.

Special legal restrictions apply to the possession and use of Schedule 7 poison. The penalties for misuse are very high, eg fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for 12 months where a person supplies his Schedule 7 poison to another person.

Authorisation validity

Your authorisation is valid for two years. This is your authority to possess and use a poison. Please keep it in a safe place.

You must show your authorisation to your supplier **each time** that you make a purchase. The supplier will enter the purchase details into his or her poisons register and ask you to sign the entry.

Possession and Use of Schedule 7 Poisons

You may use the poison only for the purpose, and only in accordance with conditions, specified in the authorisation document. Read your authorisation document carefully to ensure that you comply.

Schedule 7 poisons must not be possessed, stored or used at any address other than that stated in the authorisation document.

Schedule 7 poisons, when not in actual use, must be stored in a locked cabinet or storeroom. Where the size of the container (eg chlorine) makes this impractical, every effort must be made to prevent access to the poison by unauthorised persons.

Schedule 7 poisons must be used only by the authorised person, or by another person under his/her close and direct personal supervision. You must not supply these poisons to another person.

Records

Section 49 of the Act requires that you retain all delivery dockets or invoices relating to the receipt of the scheduled substance.

You must maintain a "register" (this can be a notebook or work diary) kept for that purpose, which details the name of the supplier, the date and quantity of poison received; and the date of each use and the quantity used. Records must be kept for 2 years from the date of the last entry.

For further details please contact:

Poison Control

Phone: (08) 8922 7341

Fax: (08) 8922 7200

Schedule 7 Safety Precautions

If you suffer from ill health, especially with respiratory or heart disease, you should avoid poisons.

Purchase only sufficient poison for the job in hand. This avoids storing the dangerous poison on your premises. A further purchase (on the same authorisation) can be made later if required.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and manufacturer's instructions on how to use the poison are available from your supplier. You should follow all safety directions and instructions carefully.

Always read the label before opening the container, including the small print. Do not use the poison if doubt exists as to its content eg the label is missing.

Concentrates are very toxic. Be very careful when opening the container and decanting the concentrate into measuring jugs or other containers.

Protective clothing should be worn when handling poisons. Your Material Safety Data Sheet will detail what type of clothing and equipment (eg rubber gloves, apron, respirator etc) is necessary to protect you from the poison.

Never eat, drink or smoke while mixing or using poisons.

Avoid contamination of the skin, especially the eyes and mouth. Liquid formulations should be poured carefully to avoid splashing. Avoid powder formulations puffing up into the face. If contaminated, wash immediately. If clothing is contaminated, remove and replace with clean clothes.

Avoid inhaling chemicals, dust and fumes, and take particular care when working in confined spaces.

Always have plenty of water with soap for washing after each application.

Return unused poisons to the store, and safely dispose of empty containers and any remaining chemical.

Disposal of poisons should be in accordance with the MSDS or alternatively contact NT WorkSafe on **1800 019 115** or PowerWater on **1800 245 092** for information on correct disposal of poisons.

Disposal of containers should be in accordance with the MSDS, otherwise empty containers should be triple rinsed with water, the rinsate should be disposed of in the same way as unwanted chemical. The empty container should be punctured or crushed, and disposed of at an approved municipal disposal site.

Never leave poisons in application equipment. Clean your equipment after use and return to the store.

Never transfer poisons into other storage containers eg beer or soft drink containers.

If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor; or the Poisons Information Centre on **13 11 26**.