

# Changes to the registration of boron pesticides



All pesticides used in Canada must be registered under the *Pest Control Products Act*. Pesticides are re-evaluated to ensure that they continue to meet health and environmental requirements. Re-evaluation may result in the cancellation of a product or product uses. Health Canada may also request changes to a product's label, including mitigation measures, use sites and application methods.

The re-evaluation decision RVD2016-01, published on July 22, 2016, includes the following active ingredients: boric acid, borax (pentahydrate), borax (disodium tetraborate decahydrate), disodium octaborate tetrahydrate and zinc borate. Highlights of the re-evaluation decision are summarized below.

## Cancelled products, as of July 22, 2019

### Stop using the following domestic products:

- Dust and granular products
- Products in solution, except in sealed bait stations or localized gel treatments

The sale of these products is prohibited as of July 22, 2018.

## Changes to the label of boron pesticides, as of July 22, 2018

### Cancelled uses for commercial products

- Application by brush of solution or soluble powder formulations
- Use of dust or soluble powder products in poultry houses and barns

### Other risk reduction measures

#### For domestic use bait stations or gel formulation

- "Apply/use only in areas inaccessible to children and pets."

#### For all commercial use products

- "Apply/use only in areas inaccessible to children and pets."
- "Do not apply as a broadcast application."
- "Visible dust/powder must be removed or wiped away after application to voids."
- Update to the personal protective equipment required for mixing, loading and applying

## Other risk reduction measures (continued)

### For all commercial use solution and soluble powder formulations used for wood treatment

- “Treated wood must be sealed or used in locations where post-application exposure will not occur.”

### For commercial use soluble powder formulations used as an additive in material preservation process

- **Bulk containers:** “Industrial users of the product must be equipped to handle the powdered product using closed system application/loading equipment (i.e. screw feeder apparatus). Bulk containers (1134 kg) must be used”
- **Other containers, when manually loaded :** “Do not handle more than 113 kg (5 × 22.7 kg bags) in one day.”

Users must follow the instructions on the updated labels.

Using a pesticide contrary to the label directions is a violation of the *Pest Control Products Act*.

## Read and follow the label

All pesticides registered in Canada have a Health Canada-approved label with a registration number. Read the pesticide label carefully, as it contains specific information on how to use it.

To find the most up-to-date label, use our online [label search tool](#), or search for “Health Canada pesticide labels” using your favourite search engine.

## For more information

Re-evaluation decision [RVD2016-01](#) Boric acid and its salts (boron). *The Health Canada-approved label is the official document for enforcement purposes. In the event of any discrepancy with the contents of this factsheet, the information on the label shall prevail.*

Health Canada's Pesticide Compliance Program (PCP) is responsible for enforcing the *Pest Control Products Act*. Visit [canada.ca/pesticide-compliance](https://canada.ca/pesticide-compliance)