

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

VIKA ROD

1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product name: VIKA ROD
Product type: Boron-based wood preserving rod
Supplier: **TIMBERLIFE (PTY) LTD**
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2. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

VIKA ROD contains disodium octaborate tetrahydrate as active ingredient.

Chemical nature and use: A solid diffusible boron-based wood preserving rod for remedial and supplemental treatment that protects the internal portion of treated wooden poles in service against fungal decay.

The VIKA ROD is formulated to penetrate heartwood and sapwood of timber by means of diffusion. Moisture levels over 20 percent in wood where the chemical rods have been inserted will start the diffusion process. The treatment controls and provides supplemental protection against internal fungal decay. The boron-based active ingredient is safe to use, environmentally acceptable and is an internationally recognised wood preservative.

Active ingredient content: 840 g/kg boric acid equivalent (min).

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3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION:

VIKA ROD is registered with the South African Department of Agriculture in terms of Act 36 of 1947 as a toxicity group IV product, i.e. "Acute hazard unlikely in normal use".

Most important hazards:

- Human health effects

Harmful if swallowed

Irritant to damaged skin

Moderately irritant to eyes

May irritate nose, throat and lungs if inhaled.

- Environmental effects

Moderately toxic to both plant and aquatic life

(Used in small quantities as an essential micronutrient for healthy plant growth).

- Physical hazards

None

(None-flammable and non-explosive during storage and use).

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Ingestion:

If the patient is conscious, first wash out mouth with water and then give large amounts of water or milk to dilute the substance. **Do not** induce vomiting. If vomiting occurs, keep head below hips to prevent the patient from swallowing it or choking on it. Obtain medical attention.

Skin contact:

Wash away with plenty of water.

Eye contact:

Wash immediately with plenty of clean water for at least 5 minutes, occasionally lifting upper and lower eye lids.

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Inhalation:

Remove the patient to fresh air. If respiratory distress is detected, seek medical attention immediately.

Note to physician:

The product contains sodium borate as active ingredient.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

No special precautions are necessary.

Any fire extinguisher may be used on nearby fires.

(Inorganic borates are non-flammable and non-explosive).

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal precautions:

Avoid contact with eyes and damaged skin.

Environmental precautions:

Avoid contamination of rivers, dams or canals.
Prevent spillage from entering drains and ditches.

Methods for cleaning up:

Shovel into clean, dry containers and remove from spill area for re-use or disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling:

Wear protective gloves when handling the product.

After contact with the skin and eyes, immediately wash with water.

Do not eat, drink or smoke while using the product.

Do not discharge into rivers, dams and canals.

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Storage:

Store in a cool, dry place away from food and foodstuffs.

No further special precautions are necessary.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Occupational Exposure Limit: 10 mg borate dust/m³ TWA.

(Adopted as a statutory Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) by the US Department of Labour's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in 1989).

Personal protective equipment:

The use of protective clothing such as overalls and rubber gloves during handling and use of the product is recommended.

Hygiene measures:

Wash hands before eating drinking or smoking.

Wash overalls and clothes regularly.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Physical state	:	Solid rod
Colour	:	Light green
Odour	:	None
pH	:	8,5 (@ 10 g/l)
Temperature stability	:	Completely stable at temperatures of up to 120°C (no changes in physical state)
Melting point	:	Starting at 450°C (no sharp melting point)
Decomposition temperature	:	None
Autoignition temperature	:	None
Explosion properties	:	None
Density	:	1,34 g/cc
Solubility	:	± 150 g/l in water @ 20°C
Water-insoluble matter	:	Less than 5g/kg

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10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability	:	Stable
Conditions to avoid	:	None,
Materials to avoid	:	None
Hazardous decomposition Products	:	None

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Acute toxicity	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral LD₅₀ (rat)- Over 3000 mg/kg• Dermal LD₅₀ - Not a primary skin irritant• Inhalation LC₅₀ - 10 mg/m³ TWA
Local effects	:	See Section 3, "Human health effects"
Chronic toxicity	:	No evidence of carcinogenic or mutagenic effects Reproductive and developmental toxicity was only noted in cases where laboratory animals were fed large doses of borates over prolonged periods

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Environmental effects	:	See Section 3, "Environmental effects"
Mobility	:	Inorganic borates are water soluble and will be dispersed in soil, the rate of which will depend on the soil type, the soil moisture content and the amount and concentration of the spill.
Degradability	:	Not degradable.
Bioaccumulation	:	Inorganic borates are absorbed by plants and are used as a micronutrient for healthy growth. Large quantities can be phytotoxic.
Ecotoxicity	:	Moderately toxic to both plant and aquatic life. (For rainbow trout, the 96-hour LC ₅₀ value ranges from 9000 to 14000 ppm).

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13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Product waste** : Dispose of in accordance with prevailing disposal regulations. Avoid contamination of soil and water by waste product. Whenever possible, any waste product should be recovered and re-used.
- Packaging material** : Flatten and dispose of as a normal household waste.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Inorganic borates are classified as non-hazardous substances and no special precautionary transport measures are necessary.

(The European Communities' Directive on the Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Substances classifies substances with a median lethal dose (acute oral toxicity in the rat, LD₅₀) of greater than 2000 mg/kg bodyweight, as not dangerous).

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Compliance with the following regulations, where and as applicable, must be adhered to:

- The Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act, 1965 (Act 45 of 1965);
- The Environmental Conservation Act, 1989 (Act 73 of 1989);
- The Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act 15 of 1973);
- The Health Act, 1977 (Act 63 of 1977);
- The National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 1977 (Act 103 of 1977)
- The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998)
- The National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)
- The Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993)
- The National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act 93 of 1996)
- The Skills Development Act, 1998 (Act 97 of 1998); and
- Provincial ordinances and local by-laws.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Please consult the product label before use. Information given herein is offered in good faith as accurate, but without guarantee. Conditions of use and suitability of the product for particular uses are beyond our control; all risks of use of the product are therefore assumed by the user and we expressly disclaim all warranties of every kind and nature, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose in respect to the use or suitability of the product.

Compiled: October 2003