Health Questions and Answers for Acelepryn[®] G

Prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment,

California Environmental Protection Agency



Q: What is Acelepryn® G?

A: Acelepryn[®] G is a granular formulation from the line of insecticidal products containing the active ingredient chlorantraniliprole. It is registered for use on turf and ornamental plants. Acelepryn[®] G is being used by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to control invasive pests such as the Japanese beetle. Acelepryn[®] G granules are applied to turf and groundcover and then watered into the soil. Chlorantraniliprole is taken up by the roots and distributed throughout the plant. Insects are exposed to chlorantraniliprole in the soil particles, organic matter and root system of plants, or in leaves when they feed on plants.

Q: How does the active ingredient, chlorantraniliprole, work?

A: When insects ingest or come into contact with chlorantraniliprole, it binds to muscle cells. This causes contraction of muscles and paralysis, leading to the death of the insect. Chlorantraniliprole does not bind as strongly to mammalian muscle cells, making it much less toxic to humans, pets and other mammals.

Q: What are chlorantraniliprole's human health effects?

A: Animal testing shows chlorantraniliprole affects the liver and body weight. However, these effects are not expected at the low exposure levels of chlorantraniliprole that occur when Acelepryn[®] G is used according to instructions on the label. Chlorantraniliprole has not been shown to cause cancer, eye irritation or skin-sensitization reactions (allergic contact dermatitis) in test animals.

Q: How do regulatory agencies classify chlorantraniliprole?

A: Chlorantraniliprole is classified by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) as a "Reduced Risk" pesticide when used on crops such as apples, lettuce, peaches, pears, tomatoes and turf. This means that chlorantraniliprole poses less risk to human health and the environment than other pesticides allowed for the same uses.

Q: What is known about the inert ingredients in Acelepryn® G?

A: In animal studies, some of the inert ingredients in Acelepryn[®] G caused mild skin or eye irritation when applied at concentrations significantly higher than what humans would be exposed to from Acelepryn[®] G applications. When used according to label instructions, Acelepryn[®] G is diluted with water immediately after application, resulting in low exposures to inert ingredients.

Q: What precautions should people take while Acelepryn® G is being applied in their yard?

A: As a precaution, individuals should stay indoors during treatment, close all windows and doors that open to the outside, and turn off ventilation systems that receive outside air. Inhalation exposure is expected to be minimal because Acelepryn[®] G is applied as a solid, granular formulation and immediately watered into the soil. The active ingredient, chlorantraniliprole, has a very low tendency to evaporate. Follow all instructions provided by CDFA.

Q: What precautions should people take after Acelepryn® G has been applied in their yard?

A: Residents should not perform yard work or allow children to play near the treated areas immediately after treatment. Wait until the area has dried before entering into the treated area. For those wishing to take extra precautions, wait at least 24 hours after treatment before entering the treated area. Wash skin and clothing if contact occurs. Follow all instructions provided by CDFA.

Q: Can people eat fruits and vegetables from plants exposed to Acelepryn® G?

A: CDFA is not applying Acelepryn[®] G to plants with fruits and vegetables for consumption, and is applying Acelepryn[®] G only to turf and groundcover. As a precaution, protect your plants with fruits and vegetables against runoff from treated areas. Wash your fruits and vegetables before eating.

Q: Are there other products on the market that contain chlorantraniliprole?

A: There are over-the-counter pesticide products that contain chlorantraniliprole for home garden use.

Q: What should someone do if they feel sick after the application of Acelepryn® G products?

A: Call the California Poison Control System hotline at (800) 222-1222 or consult with your physician.

For further information, please contact:

Invasive Species Program

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, California Environmental Protection Agency

1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4010 1515 Clay St., 16th Floor

Sacramento, CA 95812 Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: (916) 327-7319 (510) 622-3170

Email: pesticides@oehha.ca.gov