

Aluminum phosphide and Fumigation Management Plans (FMPs) for burrowing pests

OAR 437
Division 4/K
Division 4/N
Division 4/Z

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Fumigation Management Plans
(FMPs) for burrowing pests

Aluminum phosphide is the active ingredient in fumigants used to kill burrowing rodents. Trade names include Fumitoxin, Phostoxin, Gastoxin and Phosfume. These products come in tablets and pellets. Aluminum phosphide fumigants are restricted-use pesticides and can only be purchased and used under the supervision of a licensed pesticide applicator.



Why is an FMP required?

An FMP is a document required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure the application is performed safely. Applicators must prepare an FMP *before* they use the fumigant.

Aluminum phosphide fumigants produce phosphine, an extremely toxic, flammable and potentially explosive gas. Aluminum phosphide fumigants have killed humans, pets, and wildlife when stored or used improperly.

How to prepare a FMP for burrowing pests

When you purchase an aluminum phosphide fumigant, you must receive an applicator's manual. The applicator's manual is part of the label. Read and follow all the instructions on the product label and the applicator's manual *before* you prepare the FMP.

You'll find the information you need to prepare the FMP in section 20 of the applicator's manual. You'll find information about application procedures for burrowing pests in section 21.

The FMP for burrowing pests is easy to prepare and includes the following information:

- Information about the applicator and the property owner
- Who to contact in an emergency
- Information about the product
- Information about the fumigation site
- A map of the treatment site that ensures a 100-foot distance from any occupied dwelling
- A checklist of steps that ensures the fumigant is applied and stored properly.

Use the [fumigation management plan template for burrowing pests](#) on Oregon OSHA's "Forms" webpage to prepare your own plan. (Click on "Forms" under the A-Z topics list.)

You must prepare a FMP each time you apply an aluminum phosphide fumigant. Keep the plan on file for two years.

What requirements apply to aluminum phosphide fumigants?

Oregon OSHA rules:

- Division 4/Z, 437-004-9010 Fumigated Areas
- Division 4/N, 437-004-1680 Storage of Hazardous Chemicals
- Division 4/Z, 437-004-9800 Hazard Communication for Agricultural Employers
- Division 4/Z, 437-004-9000 Oregon Rules for Air Contaminants
- Division 4/K, 437-004-1305 Medical Services and First Aid

Website:

www.orosha.org

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Aluminum phosphide and FMPs for burrowing pests *continued*



◀ **Fumitoxin:** an aluminum phosphide fumigant



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Oregon Department of Agriculture: prohibited acts

- Using a pesticide inconsistent with its labeling. 634.373(2)
- Performing a pesticide application in a faulty or careless manner. 634.373(4)
- As a pesticide applicator, working or engaging in the application of any class of pesticides without first obtaining and maintaining a pesticide applicator's license, or applying pesticides which are not specifically authorized by such license. 634.372 (8)
- As a pesticide operator, engaging in the business of, or representing or advertising as being in the business of, applying pesticides upon the land or property of another, without first obtaining and maintaining a pesticide operator's license; nor shall such person engage in a class of pesticide application business which is not specifically authorized by license issued by the State Department of Agriculture. Further, no such person shall employ or use any person to apply or spray pesticides who is not a licensed pesticide applicator or pesticide trainee. 634.372(9)
- As a pesticide trainee, working or engaging in the application of any class of pesticides without first obtaining and maintaining a pesticide trainee's certificate. 634.372 (10)
- Applying any pesticide classified as a restricted-use or highly-toxic pesticide to agricultural, horticultural or forest crops on land owned or leased by the person without first obtaining and maintaining a private applicator certificate. 643.372 (13)

Where to find more information

Copies of applicator's manuals in English and Spanish, Safety Data Sheets, and product labels are available at www.pestcon.com.

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