

Health Questions and Answers for Acelepryn®

Use on Turf and Groundcover Plants

Prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, CalEPA



Q: *What is Acelepryn®?*

A: Acelepryn® is a line of insecticidal products containing the active ingredient chlorantraniliprole. It is registered for use on turf, ornamental plants, and various food and feed crops. Acelepryn® is being used by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to control invasive pests such as the Japanese beetle. Acelepryn® is applied by CDFA 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, as well as when they feed on plant tissues or ingest plant fluids.

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

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

Q: *What are chlorantraniliprole's human health effects?*

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

Q: *How do regulatory agencies classify chlorantraniliprole as a pesticide for use on turf and groundcover?*

A: Chlorantraniliprole is classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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®?*

A: In animal studies, some of the inert ingredients in Acelepryn® caused slight skin or eye irritation when applied at concentrations significantly higher than what humans would be exposed to from Acelepryn® applications. When used according to label instructions, Acelepryn® is highly diluted with water, ensuring a very low level of exposure to any one inert ingredient.

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Q: *What precautions should people take when Acelepryn® is applied to turf and groundcover 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 the material is being applied to the ground and chlorantraniliprole has a very low tendency to evaporate. Follow all instructions provided by CDFA.

Q: *What precautions should people take after Acelepryn® has been applied to turf and groundcover 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 material has dried before entering into the treated area. For those wishing to take extra caution, wait at least 24 hours after treatment before entering the treated area. If it is necessary to enter prior to the material drying, wear gloves and clothes to protect the skin from direct contact with residues, and wash skin and clothing if contact occurs. Follow all instructions provided by CDFA.

Q: *Can I eat fruits and vegetables from plants exposed to Acelepryn®?*

A: When Acelepryn® is applied only to turf and groundcover, it is unlikely that chlorantraniliprole residue would be found on fruits and vegetables. As a precaution, protect your fruits and vegetables against spray drift and wash them 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 I do if I feel sick after the application of Acelepryn® products?*

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

For further information, please contact:

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