

Section 1 - Identification of the Material and Supplier

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Chemwatch Emergency Response (24/7)
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Chemical nature: Metsulfuron methyl is a sulfonylurea derivative.
Trade Name: **Surefire Metsulfuron Methyl Herbicide**
APVMA Code: 68878
Product Use: Agricultural herbicide for control of brush & broadleaf weeds as described on the product label.
Creation Date: **September, 2015**
This version issued: **October, 2025** and is valid for 5 years from this date.
Poisons Information Centre: Phone 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia

Section 2 - Hazards Identification**Statement of Hazardous Nature**

SUSMP Classification: None allocated.

ADG Classification: Class 9: Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods.

UN Number: 3077, ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S.

**GHS Signal word: WARNING**

Acute toxicity (oral) – category 4
Skin irritation – category 2
Eye irritation – category 2B
Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure) – category 3
Hazardous to the aquatic environment (chronic) – category 1

HAZARD STATEMENT:

H302: Harmful if swallowed.
H315: Causes skin irritation.
H320: Causes eye irritation.
H335: May cause respiratory irritation.
H410: Very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects.

PREVENTION

P102: Keep out of reach of children.
P262: Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing.
P264: Wash contacted areas thoroughly after handling.
P270: Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P281: Use personal protective equipment as required.

RESPONSE

P362: Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.
P301+P312: IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTRE or doctor if you feel unwell.
P301+P330+P331: IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.
P302+P352: IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P305+P351+P338: IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P332+P313: If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice.
P337+P313: If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice.
P370+P378: In case of fire, use carbon dioxide, dry chemical, foam, water fog. Water fog or fine spray is the preferred medium for large fires.

STORAGE

P410: Protect from sunlight.
P403+P233: Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.

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DISPOSAL

P501: Dispose of contents and containers as specified on the registered label.

Emergency Overview

Physical Description & Colour: Off-white fine granules.

Odour: No odour.

Major Health Hazards: Systemic poisoning by sulfonylurea based compounds is unlikely, unless large quantities have been ingested. No accounts of poisoning by Metsulfuron-methyl are currently available.

This product is irritating to eyes and skin, harmful if swallowed, skin irritant.

Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredients	CAS No	Conc, %	TWA (mg/m ³)	STEL (mg/m ³)
Metsulfuron methyl	74223-64-6	600g/kg	not set	not set
Other non hazardous ingredients	secret	to 100	not set	not set

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The SWA TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that may be equalled (but should not be exceeded) for no longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit, because of the rapid action of the substance, should never be exceeded, even briefly.

Section 4 - First Aid Measures**General Information:**

You should call The Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) and is available at all times. Have this SDS with you when you call.

Inhalation: No first aid measures normally required. However, if inhalation has occurred, and irritation has developed, remove to fresh air and observe until recovered. If irritation becomes painful or persists more than about 30 minutes, seek medical advice.

Skin Contact: Quickly and gently brush away excess particles. Wash gently and thoroughly with warm water (use non-abrasive soap if necessary) for 10-20 minutes or until product is removed. Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (e.g. watchbands and belts) and completely decontaminate them before reuse or discard. If irritation persists, repeat flushing and seek medical attention.

Eye Contact: Quickly and gently brush particles from eyes. Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 15 minutes or until the product is removed, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto the face. Obtain medical attention immediately. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

Ingestion: If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Wash mouth with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor.

Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

Fire and Explosion Hazards: The major hazard in fires is usually inhalation of heated and toxic or oxygen deficient (or both), fire gases. There is little risk of an explosion from this product if commercial quantities are involved in a fire.

Fire decomposition products from this product may be toxic if inhaled. Take appropriate protective measures.

Extinguishing Media: In case of fire, use carbon dioxide, dry chemical, foam, water fog. Water fog or fine spray is the preferred medium for large fires. Try to contain spills, minimise spillage entering drains or water courses.

Fire Fighting: If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade. There is little danger of a violent reaction or explosion if significant quantities of this product are involved in a fire. Recommended personal protective equipment is full fire kit and breathing apparatus.

Flammability Class: No data.

Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

Accidental release: In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. Wear full protective clothing including eye/face protection. All skin areas should be covered. See below under Personal Protection regarding Australian Standards relating to personal protective equipment. No special recommendations for clothing materials. Eye/face protective equipment should comprise as a minimum, protective goggles. If there is a significant chance that dusts are likely to build up in cleanup area, we recommend that you use a suitable dust mask. Otherwise, not normally necessary.

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Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Because of the environmentally hazardous nature of this product, special care should be taken to restrict release to waterways or drains. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage, and dispose of promptly. Consider vacuuming if appropriate. Recycle containers wherever possible after careful cleaning. Refer to product label for specific instructions. After spills, wash area preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material enters drains, advise emergency services. Full details regarding disposal of used containers, spillage and unused material may be found on the label. If there is any conflict between this SDS and the label, instructions on the label prevail. Ensure legality of disposal by consulting regulations prior to disposal. Thoroughly launder protective clothing before storage or re-use. Advise laundry of nature of contamination when sending contaminated clothing to laundry.

Section 7 - Handling and Storage

Handling: Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this SDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

Storage: Although this is classed as a Dangerous Good, you may not need a license to store it. If you have any doubts, we suggest you contact your Dangerous Goods authority in order to clarify your obligations. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

The following Australian Standards will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Occupational Protective Clothing: **AS/NZS 4501** set 2008, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

SWA Exposure Limits

TWA (mg/m³)

STEL (mg/m³)

Exposure limits have not been established by SWA for any of the significant ingredients in this product.

The ADI for Metsulfuron methyl is set at 0.01mg/kg/day. The corresponding NOEL is set at 1mg/kg/day. ADI means Acceptable Daily Intake; NOEL means No-observable-effect-level. Data from Australian ADI List, June 2014.

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

Ventilation: This product should only be used in a well ventilated area. If natural ventilation is inadequate, use of a fan is suggested.

Eye Protection: Protective glasses or goggles should be worn when this product is being used. Failure to protect your eyes may cause them harm. Emergency eye wash facilities are also recommended in an area close to where this product is being used.

Skin Protection: Prevent skin contact by wearing impervious gloves, clothes and, preferably, apron. Make sure that all skin areas are covered. See below for suitable material types.

Protective Material Types: We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: PVC.

Respirator: If there is a significant chance that dusts are likely to build up in the area where this product is being used, we recommend that you use a suitable dust mask. Otherwise, not normally necessary.

Eyebaths or eyewash stations and safety deluge showers should, if practical, be provided near to where this product is being handled commercially.

Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

Physical Description & colour:	Off-white fine granules.
Odour:	No odour.
Boiling Point:	Not available.
Flash point:	No data
Upper Flammability Limit:	No data.
Lower Flammability Limit:	No data.
Autoignition temperature:	No data.
Freezing/Melting Point:	No specific data. Solid at normal temperatures.
Volatiles:	No specific data. Expected to be low at 100°C.
Vapour Pressure:	Negligible at normal ambient temperatures.
Vapour Density:	Not applicable.
Specific Gravity:	No data.
Water Solubility:	Dispersible.
pH:	No data.
Volatility:	Negligible at normal ambient temperatures.

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Odour Threshold:	No data.
Evaporation Rate:	Not applicable.
Coeff Oil/water Distribution:	No data
Particle Characteristics:	Granules.
Autoignition temp:	No data.

Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

Reactivity: This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. However, if you have any doubts, contact the supplier for advice on shelf life properties.

Conditions to Avoid: Protect this product from light. Store in the closed original container in a dry, cool, well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight.

Incompatibilities: oxidising agents.

Fire Decomposition: Combustion forms carbon dioxide, and if incomplete, carbon monoxide and possibly smoke. Water is also formed. May form nitrogen and its compounds, and under some circumstances, oxides of nitrogen. Occasionally hydrogen cyanide gas in reducing atmospheres. May form oxides of sulfur (sulfur dioxide is a respiratory hazard) and other sulfur compounds. Most will have a foul odour. Carbon monoxide poisoning produces headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, confusion, dimness of vision, disturbance of judgment, and unconsciousness followed by coma and death.

Polymerisation: This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

Toxicity: Acute Toxicity: Metsulfuron methyl has very low toxicity in mammals. LD₅₀ is > 5,000 mg/kg in rats. It has low dermal toxicity in tests with rabbits, with an LD₅₀ > 2,000 mg/kg, and low inhalation toxicity in rats, with a median lethal concentration in air of greater than 5 mg/litre air. Moderate but reversible eye irritation has been seen in rabbits, and mild skin irritation has been observed in guinea pigs. No skin sensitization has been observed in guinea pigs.

Chronic Toxicity: A 2-year feeding study in rats resulted in a No Observable Effects Level (NOEL) of 25.0 mg/kg/day (or 500 ppm in feed), based on decreased body weights seen at 250 mg/kg/day (5,000 ppm) which was the highest dose tested. EPA has based its reference dose (0.25 mg/kg/day) on this study.

Reproductive Effects: Multigeneration studies in rats did not result in any reproductive effects at the highest doses tested of 250 mg/kg/day.

Teratogenic Effects: Metsulfuron-methyl did not cause developmental abnormalities to offspring of rats and rabbits fed 1000 mg/kg/day and 700 mg/kg/day respectively during gestation. These doses represent the highest dose tested for each experiment.

Mutagenic Effects: The weight of evidence presented by a battery of tests to measure mutagenicity and other adverse effects on DNA indicates that Metsulfuron-methyl is neither mutagenic nor genotoxic.

Carcinogenic Effects: Negative for rats and mice in laboratory tests, but studies may not have been at maximum tolerated dose.

Organ Toxicity: Metsulfuron-methyl is a moderate eye irritant.

Fate in Humans and Other Animals: The chemical is broken down quickly and eliminated from the body. In tests with radio labelled Metsulfuron-methyl in rats, the excretion half-lives ranged from 9 to 16 hours and 23 to 29 hours for rats administered low and high doses, respectively. It did not bioaccumulate in fish.

Classification of Hazardous Ingredients

Ingredient	Health Hazard Statement Codes
Metsulfuron-methyl	H410
- Hazardous to the aquatic environment (acute) – category 1 - Hazardous to the aquatic environment (chronic) – category 1	

Potential Health Effects

Inhalation:

Short Term Exposure: Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. However product may be mildly irritating, although unlikely to cause anything more than mild transient discomfort.

Long Term Exposure: No data for health effects associated with long term inhalation.

Skin Contact:

Short Term Exposure: This product is a skin irritant. Symptoms may include itchiness and reddening of contacted skin. Other symptoms may also become evident, but if treated promptly, all should disappear once exposure has ceased.

Long Term Exposure: No data for health effects associated with long term skin exposure.

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Eye Contact:

Short Term Exposure: This product is an eye irritant. Symptoms may include stinging and reddening of eyes and watering which may become copious. Other symptoms may also become evident. If exposure is brief, symptoms should disappear once exposure has ceased. However, lengthy exposure or delayed treatment may cause permanent damage.

Long Term Exposure: No data for health effects associated with long term eye exposure.

Ingestion:

Short Term Exposure: Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. Available data shows that this product is harmful, but symptoms are not available. However, this product is an oral irritant. Symptoms may include burning sensation and reddening of skin in mouth and throat. Other symptoms may also become evident, but all should disappear once exposure has ceased.

Long Term Exposure: No data for health effects associated with long term ingestion.

Carcinogen Status:

SWA: No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by SWA.

NTP: No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

IARC: No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

Section 12 - Ecological Information

This product is biodegradable. It will not accumulate in the soil or water or cause long term problems.

Breakdown of Chemical in Soil and Groundwater: The breakdown of Metsulfuron-methyl in soils is largely dependant on soil temperature, moisture content, and pH. The chemical will degrade faster under acidic conditions, and in soils with higher moisture content and higher temperature. The chemical has a higher mobility potential in alkaline soils than in acidic soils, as it is more soluble under alkaline conditions. Metsulfuron-methyl is stable to photolysis, but will break down in ultraviolet light. Half-life estimates for Metsulfuron-methyl in soil are wide ranging from 14 - 180 days, with an overall average of reported values of 30 days. Reported half-life values (in days) for soil include: clay - 178 ; sandy loam - 102 ; clay loam - 70 , 14-28 , 14-105 ; silty loam - 120-180.

Breakdown of Chemical in Surface Water: The dissipation time for Metsulfuron-methyl was investigated in a mixed wood/boreal forest lake. The DT₅₀ or length of time required for half of the material to dissipate in water was >84 days when high concentrations of Metsulfuron-methyl were applied, and 29.1 days at concentrations that might be expected if the chemical is applied for forestry uses. It is stable to hydrolysis at neutral and alkaline pHs, and has a half-life of 3 weeks at pH 5.0, 25°C and >30 days at 15°C.

Breakdown of Chemical in Vegetation: Metsulfuron-methyl is rapidly taken up by plants at the roots and on foliage. The chemical is translocated throughout the plant, but is not persistent. It is broken down to non-herbicidal products in tolerant plants.

Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

Disposal: Special help is available for the disposal of Agricultural Chemicals. The product label will give general advice regarding disposal of small quantities, and how to cleanse containers. However, for help with the collection of unwanted rural chemicals, contact ChemClear 1800 008 182 <http://www.chemclear.com.au/> and for help with the disposal of empty drums, contact DrumMuster <http://www.drummuster.com.au/> where you will find contact details for your area.

Section 14 - Transport Information

Not subject to the ADG Code when transported by Road or Rail in Australia, in packages 500kg(L) or less; or IBCs, but classed as Dangerous by IATA and IMDG/IMSBC when carried by Air or Sea transport (see details below).

UN Number: 3077, ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S.

Hazchem Code: 2Z

Special Provisions: 179, 274, 331, 335, AU01

Limited quantities: ADG 7 specifies a Limited Quantity value of 5 kg for this class of product.

Dangerous Goods Class: Class 9: Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods.

Packaging Group: III

Packaging Method: P002, IBC08, LP02

Class 9 Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Dangerous Goods of Class 1 (Explosives).

Section 15 - Regulatory Information

AIC: All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are compliant with AICIS regulations.

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Section 16 - Other Information

This SDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.

Acronyms:

ADG Code	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (7 th edition)
AIIC	Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals
SWA	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
CAS number	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
Hazchem Code	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
NOS	Not otherwise specified
NTP	National Toxicology Program (USA)
SUSMP	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons
UN Number	United Nations Number

THIS SDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS SDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This SDS is prepared in accord with the SWA document "Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals - Code of Practice" (July 2020) and GHS Revision 7

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