



Biocides

What do you need to know as a professional user?

www.biocide.be

Biocides? Recognise them and protect yourself

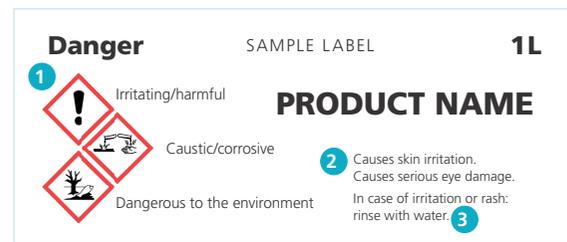
Although biocides are effective in controlling unwanted organisms, they can pose a risk to your health. That is why it is important to protect yourself and your employees and **to use, store and dispose of biocides correctly**. The authorisation act, the label and the instructions for use of the product will help you on your way.

Authorisation act

The authorisation act mentions the conditions of use of the biocide, states whether the biocide belongs to the closed circuit and gives information about how to dispose of the product correctly. The act (in paragraph 8) also states what personal protective equipment you need. You can consult the act in the **list of authorised products** at www.biocide.be.

Only biocides authorised by the federal government can be sold on the Belgian market. If in doubt, consult the list of authorised products on the website.

Label



The label contains the most important information on the dangers and risks of the product.

- 1** The **hazard pictograms** show the dangers of a product.
- 2** The **hazard statements** describe the seriousness of these dangers and the circumstances in which they occur.
- 3** The **precautionary statements** explain how to limit the risks and what to do in the event of an accident.



What are biocides?

Biocides are products that are used to deter, render harmless or destroy unwanted organisms. Examples are disinfectants, insecticides, products for the control of rats or mice, fungicidal products and wood preservatives. Together with plant protection products, biocides fall under the category of pesticides.

Significant health risk

Biocidal products with a high risk to health belong to the **closed circuit**. They can be toxic, carcinogenic or harmful to reproduction. This is why these biocides are mainly reserved for professional users.

The **list of authorised biocides** can be found on the website www.biocide.be. It indicates which biocides belong to the closed circuit.

Don't reach for dangerous products too quickly

The more you expose yourself to biocides, the greater the risk to your health. Therefore, do not buy or use more than you need.

Ask yourself whether you are using the right product for your problem and whether there is no **other effective solution**. Strike the right balance between a closed circuit biocide, a free circuit biocide or any other method of control that is less harmful to yourself, your employees or the environment. Alternatives can be found in the brochure 'Pesticides in your home or garden' (available at www.biocide.be).

Compulsory registration

Do you want to buy and use a closed circuit biocide? Then you are required to register online and confirm your status as a **professional user** by 31 December of each year via your account (according to the Royal Decree of 4 April 2019).

Why register?

Not only do you have to register as a user, but also as a seller. The registration gives the government a clear idea of the sale and use of biocides in the various economic sectors.

The government treats the registered data confidentially and only uses them within the framework of the European and national legislation on biocides.

How to register online?

- Go to www.biocide.be ('closed circuit' section).
- Create a personal account.
- Register your company via the company number (= VAT number).
- Confirm your registration annually via your account.

Check the registration manual on the website to register correctly.



Use the following rules of thumb

Protect yourself, your colleagues and your employees

- Read the label. Check the hazard pictograms and hazard statements. Strictly follow the precautionary statements.
- Wear suitable protective clothing and, if necessary, gloves, a mouth mask and/or safety goggles.
- Keep children and other people away.
- Wash or dispose of clothing and protective equipment after use.
- Ventilate the area well. If possible, work with an open window.
- Regularly take a break if you work in an enclosed space.
- Do not eat, smoke or drink while working.
- Keep flammable products away from fire and other heat sources.

What to do in case of an accident?

- In case of contact with skin or eyes: rinse thoroughly with water.
- If inhaled: do not induce vomiting. Get out of the contaminated area.
- Call the Poison Control Centre (070 245 245 245) or your physician. In life-threatening situations, call the European emergency number 112.
- Keep the packaging or label at hand in order for the emergency services to know which product it is.

BIOCIDES?
I use them with
the necessary
caution

More information? Questions?

Go to www.biocide.be
or contact the helpdesk at
www.helpdeskbiocides.be.