

The Register of Accredited Metallic Phosphide Standards in the United Kingdom

BULLETIN

3

RAMPS UK

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THE LAW REGARDING THE SALE AND
SAFE USE OF ALUMINIUM PHOSPHIDE
PRODUCTS IS CHANGING – READ ON



SEPT 2012

In the UK, the new Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 came into force on 18th July 2012 and deadlines for the individual future requirements are currently being finalised. Information on how these apply to metal phosphides will be circulated on a regular basis to keep you legal.

You need to be aware of how you will be affected:

1. If you are a distributor of aluminium phosphide
2. If you are a user of aluminium phosphide
3. How is RAMPS helping to support stockists and users through these changes

Please study the section/s relevant to you and ensure you are ready to meet the new requirements.



1. HOW ARE DISTRIBUTORS & STOCKISTS AFFECTED BY THE NEW REGULATIONS?

If you sell or supply aluminium phosphide for the control of rodents, moles and rabbits, it is essential that you continue to meet all the requirements of the products approval and its sale under the current Poisons Rules.

1. Sellers and suppliers of the products should be registered with an organisation that provides an annual audit and certification, such as BASIS. Although this registration is not a legal requirement, it will enable you to prove that the legal requirements regarding sale, supply and storage are being met
2. As a matter of good product stewardship, the companies responsible for marketing Phostoxin and Talunex may require this confirmation before supplying the products
3. If you do not know the buyer, you need to be satisfied that they are adequately qualified and need the product for their work
4. There are no aluminium phosphide products approved for non-professional use
5. You must ensure that a detailed Poisons Register is maintained at every point of sale and for each purchase. Poisons Register books are available from RAMPS UK free of charge to assist in this.
6. Aluminium phosphide products can be authorised for the control of rabbits, moles, rodents or as a fumigant for food storage purposes, e.g. grain protection
7. Under the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012, as from 26th November 2014 any person who makes an aluminium phosphide product available on the market (whether a wholesaler, retailer, vendor or supplier) will have to hold a certificate recognised by the competent authority. It also means the person or organisation who offers the product must have a certificate holder available at the time of sale.
8. The certificate would be a BASIS Certificate
9. There is already a BASIS certificate (the BASIS certificate for Stored Combinable Crops) for sellers of aluminium phosphide for stored grain protection
10. RAMPS is currently discussing with BASIS the provision of a new specified certificate for the sale of aluminium phosphide for the control of rabbits, moles and rodents



2. HOW ARE USERS AFFECTED BY THE NEW LAW?

If you are a professional person buying aluminium phosphides for the control of moles, rabbits or rodents you will need to show that you have been properly trained and competent.

1. Certificates awarded by non-accredited bodies before November 26th 2013 can be accepted but only until 26th November 2015.
2. Anyone undergoing training after 26 November 2013 will have to obtain the C&G Level 2 qualification or another that is provided by an Ofqual regulated awarding body
3. On and after 26 November 2015, everyone must have an accredited certificate in order to be able to buy and use metallic phosphide products. This is the ultimate deadline by which time all pest controllers and other users must have a specified, recognised certificate of competence in the safe use of metallic phosphide products.
4. If you have had no prior training or do not currently hold a certificate of competence you must be aware that from November 2013 you will no longer be able to buy the product unless you hold an accredited qualification in its use.
5. This affects all professionals including pest controllers, farmers, gamekeepers, amenities managers, small holders and anyone else having a professional need for the product.
6. The person using the product must attain and show the qualification to the seller – even if you are not the person purchasing it because you work for the purchaser.
7. You must sign and complete the Poisons Register on every occasion you make a purchase.
8. Do not wait until the last moment to take up the qualification as there will be large numbers of professionals needing to be qualified
9. You should ensure that a detailed users log is maintained for every treatment including the reference number of each flask used. Users logs are available from RAMPS UK free of charge to assist in this.

Please look at www.ramps-uk.org or contact your distributor for details of how to attain the required certification

3. HOW IS RAMPS CHANGING?

To meet with these requirements adequately, RAMPS are in discussions with various bodies to make sure that the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 is being interpreted correctly in relation to metallic phosphides and that members are given clear guidance on the rules surrounding the purchase and use of the product.

Working closely with these industry bodies including; City & Guilds, BASIS (Registration) Ltd., the British Pest Control Association, Natural England and NPTA, RAMPS will continue to develop awareness and encourage the use of aluminium phosphide as an effective professional activity.

The RAMPS UK Code of Good Practice will shortly be available as a down load from our web site to help clarify issues surrounding the responsible, sale, supply, use, storage and disposal of the product.

RAMPS has now become a company limited by guarantee.

An initial board of directors has been appointed. Their task is to guide RAMPS UK during the transitional period leading up to the implementation of the Sustainable Use Regulations.

In 2014, a new board will be appointed with nominated and elected members.

Membership will remain available to distributors, users and trainers with the aim of promoting the highest standards of stewardship possible.

If you wish to be added to the RAMPS UK bulletin list, please register at www.ramps-uk.org

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