

Helpline Hot Topic for September 2020

Carbaryl – Now Restricted in California

By Cynthia Zimmerman

Home gardeners and maintenance gardeners need to be aware. All pesticides containing the active ingredient carbaryl are now designated as restricted materials in California. As of August 1, 2020, it is unlawful to possess or use carbaryl products without an appropriate pesticide applicator license and permit.

Carbaryl is a chemical in the carbamate family primarily used as an insecticide. Although originally used agriculturally, it was introduced in the early 1960s under the brand name Sevin and has become a popular residential insecticide for lawns, ornamentals, vegetables, and pets. The common uses are for aphids, fire ants, fleas, ticks, and spiders.

The intent of the restriction and regulation is to reduce residential exposures. According to data kept by California Department of Pesticide Regulation, the majority of carbaryl illnesses – some of which involved children under the age of 5 – resulted from misuse around the home; residential and bystander exposure during application of home use products via dust application; residential adult and toddler exposure via reentry onto treated turf; and residential toddler exposure via hand-to-mouth transfer, object-to-mouth transfer, and soil ingestion. The regulation also should reduce exposure when applied in and around industrial sites such as restaurants and retail nurseries; institutional sites such as schools and hospitals, and when it is applied for vector control.

The regulation requires retailers remove all existing stocks from their shelves and cease sales of carbaryl containing products. It is also illegal for the homeowner to have or use carbaryl products if they are not licensed as a certified applicator.

The following products fall under the California Restricted Materials Designation as of August 1, 2020.

The Andersons Professional Turf Products 8% Granular Insecticide with Carbaryl	
Sevin SL Carbaryl Insecticide	(Bayer Environmental Science)
Drexel Carbaryl 4L	(Drexel Chemical Co.)
Lesco Sevin SL Carbaryl Insecticide	(Lesco, Inc.)
Cooke Pest Granules	(Lilly Miller Brands)
Carbaryl 4L	(Loveland Products, Inc.)
Carbaryl Cutworm Bait	(Loveland Products, Inc.)
Deadline Bug Bait	(Matson, LLC)
Garden Tech Sevin Concentrate Bug Killer	(Techpac, LLC)
Gardentech Sevin Lawn Insect Granules	(Techpac, LLC)
Gardentech Sevin Ready-to-Spray Bug Killer	(Techpac, LLC)
Gardentech Sevin Ready-to-Use	(Techpac, LLC)

Gardentech Sevin-5 Ready-to-Use 5% Dust (Techpac, LLC)
Sevin Brand XLR Plus Carbaryl Insecticide (Tessenderlo Kerley, Inc.)

Because these products are harmful to human health and the environment, the products should not be disposed of in sinks, toilets, storm drains, or any body of water, or poured out on the soil. In Fresno County the place to dispose of this or any hazardous chemicals or products is the Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 18950 W. American Ave., Kerman; Saturdays 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. except holiday weekends. No appointment necessary. Free disposal up to 15 gallons or 125 pounds. (559)600-4259.

Sources:

Notice of New Restrictions on the Sale and Use of Pesticide Products Containing Carbaryl

https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/pdf/carbaryl_outreach_flyer.pdf

Carbaryl Expanded as a California Restricted Material – Retail Sales End August 1, 2020

<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/county/cacltrs/penfltrs/penf2020/202010.htm>

Carbaryl General Fact Sheet (National Pesticide Information Center)

<http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/carbarylgen.html#:~:text=Currently%2C%20there%20are%20over%20190%20registered%20pesticide%20products,crops%2C%20home%20gardens%2C%20lawns%2C%20and%20other%20ornamental%20plants.>

Carbaryl Products Become Restricted-Use Aug 1 California (Western Farm Press)

<https://www.farmprogress.com/insecticide/carbaryl-products-become-restricted-use-aug-1-california>