



Control approach 1

Ready-for-use insecticide sprays and dusts

SR07

General ventilation



This guidance sheet is for employers including the self-employed and franchisees

to help them comply with the requirements of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH) by controlling exposure to chemicals and protecting workers' health.

The sheet is part of HSE guidance *COSHH essentials: easy steps to control chemicals*. It describes the key points you need to follow to help reduce exposure to an adequate level. It is important to follow all the points, or use equally effective measures.

Get safety data sheets from your product supplier. Use these to identify the more dangerous chemicals, and less dangerous substitutes. Also check for flammability.

Insecticides are biocidal products. Authorised products are safe for use so long as you follow the instructions on the labels.

Airspace spraying by aerosols kills flying insects. Surface treatments by trigger spray or dust puffer pack kill crawling insects. Similar packs are used to treat indoor plants.

General ventilation is the recommended approach.

Caution: aerosol propellants are often flammable.

Design and equipment

- ✘ Never re-use empty insecticide containers. Dispose of them safely - not by burning.
- ✓ You need washing facilities for decontamination after handling products.

Procedures

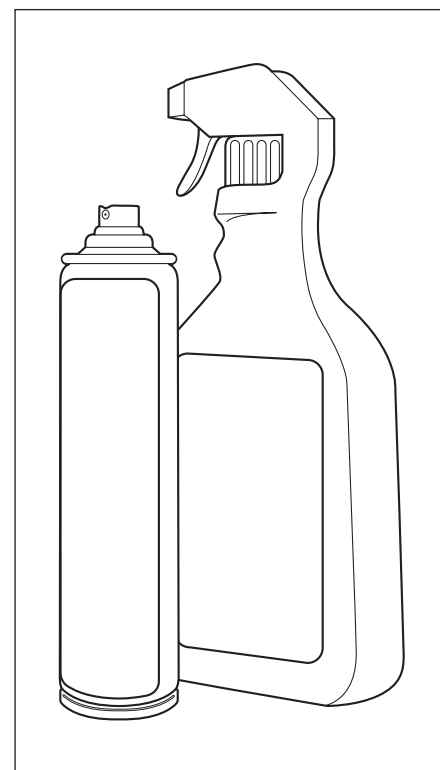
- ✓ Store products containing chemicals securely in a cool, dry, dark place, capable of keeping in spills. Don't store far more than you need.
- ✓ Read the instructions on labels carefully - follow the instructions for use.
- ✓ Keep chemicals off your skin - wash off any splashes immediately.
- ✘ Don't direct sprays or dusts at people or animals, or over food.
- ✘ Never use aerosols or solvent-based trigger sprayers near a naked flame.

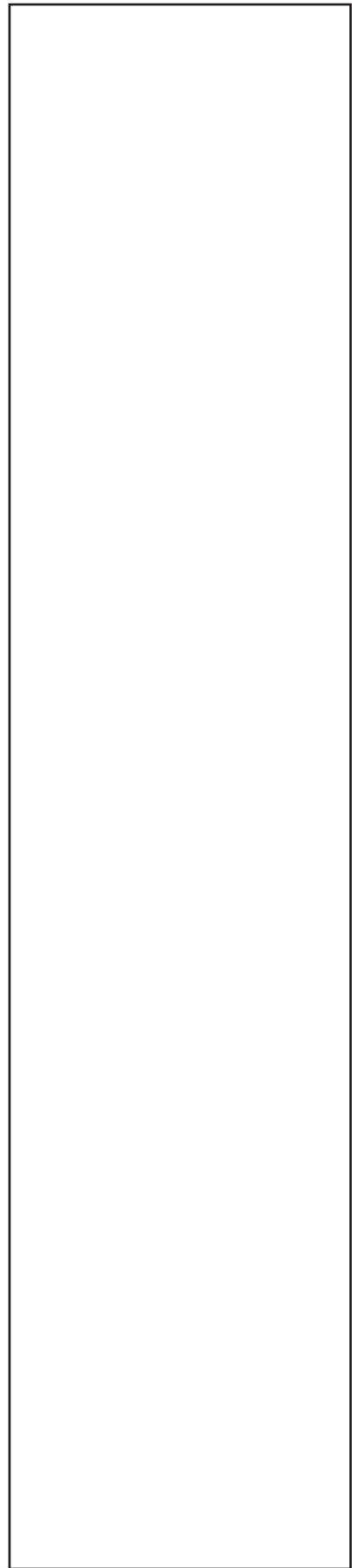
Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- ✓ Follow the instructions on product labels.
- ✓ Wear protective gloves - single-use nitrile gloves are acceptable. If you must use latex gloves, use only 'low-protein, powder-free' gloves.
- ✓ Throw away single-use gloves every time you take them off.

Training

- ✓ Show your workers this sheet and check that they understand it.
- ✓ Tell them about the risks of using the product - see product labels or Section 15 of the safety data sheet from your product supplier.





*COSHH essentials:
easy steps to control chemicals*
October 2003

Printed and published by
the Health and Safety Executive