

DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR PROFUME* GAS FUMIGANT

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Dow AgroSciences LLC, in cooperation with academic, industry, and government researchers, as well as fumigators, millers, and food processors has been developing ProFume* gas fumigant (99.8% sulfuryl fluoride) for over 7 years to control stored product pests in milling, food processing, and food storage facilities.

Dow AgroSciences has a long history of responsible stewardship with gas fumigants, and particularly with sulfuryl fluoride for the structural fumigation market. As with Vikane, Dow AgroSciences will deliver comprehensive training for ProFume and implement a stewardship program emphasizing worker, bystander, and environmental safety.

During the concept phase of the stewardship program, technical and business leaders from fumigation companies were consulted to share our vision of ProFume stewardship requirements, define current internal training programs, discuss opportunities to develop a synergistic partnership on training opportunities, and address resource needs to complete the program.

To implement the program, it was first essential to train and develop Dow AgroSciences personnel with the appropriate, consistent technical knowledge and fumigation experience. Several Dow AgroSciences field researchers and technical sales representatives completed multiple days of train-the-trainer sessions during 2002 and 2003. In addition, field experience was gained by cooperating with several fumigation companies to plan, organize, and participate in numerous fumigations over the last several years.

Fumigation with ProFume will require the use of the Fumiguide* Program for ProFume gas fumigant (ProFume Fumiguide) and use of precision fumigation practices. Precision fumigation is defined as optimizing fumigant use to maximize efficiency and minimize risk.

* Trademark of Dow AgroSciences. ProFume is not yet registered or for sale in the USA.

The ProFume Fumiguide will be an excellent educational and operational tool, allowing the fumigator to consider multiple fumigation scenarios prior to deciding on the optimal fumigation plan. Also, by helping the fumigator apply only the fumigant necessary to control the target pest, use of the ProFume Fumiguide promotes good stewardship and responsible use of this product.

The final stewardship program will consist of classroom training, an exam to demonstrate competency in key areas of label and precision fumigation practices, simulated on-the-job critical fumigation scenarios, and DAS expertise assisted fumigations. Additionally, an annual training update and label review will also be conducted.