

Safety Information for CA Treated Lumber

Consumer Information

This wood has been preserved by pressure-treatment with an EPA-registered pesticide, copper azole*, to protect it from termite attack and fungal decay. Wood treated with any preservative should be used only where such protection is important.

In the treating process, copper azole penetrates deeply into the wood where it remains for a long time. However, some chemical may migrate from preserved wood into surrounding soil over time and may also be dislodged from the wood surface upon contact with skin. Exposure to copper azole may present certain hazards. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken both when handling the preserved wood and in determining where to use and dispose of it. Many of these precautions also apply to untreated wood and other building materials.

Use Site Precautions

- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Do not use treated wood under circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food or animal feed. Examples are mulch from recycled treated wood, cutting boards, counter tops, animal bedding, and structures or containers for storing animal feed or human food.
- Only treated wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used where contact is likely.
- Do not use treated wood for construction of those portions of beehives, which may come into contact with honey.
- Treated wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks or bridges.

Handling Precautions

- Dispose of treated wood by ordinary trash collection. TREATED WOOD SHOULD NOT BE BURNED in open fires or in stoves, fireplaces or residential boilers because toxic substances may be produced as part of the smoke and ashes. Treated wood from commercial or industrial use (e.g., construction sites) may be disposed of by complying with local landfill rules or burned in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers when done in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from wood, treated or untreated. When sawing, sanding, and machining wood, wear a dust mask. Whenever possible, these operations should be performed outdoors to avoid indoor accumulations or airborne sawdust.

- When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.
 - Wear gloves when working with wood. Use proper techniques when lifting. After working with wood, and before eating, drinking, toileting, and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly.
 - Because preservatives or sawdust may accumulate on clothes, they should be laundered before reuse. Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing.
- *The active ingredients in copper azole are copper and tebuconazole.

[1/04]

CAUTION!

WOOD DUST (TREATED OR UNTREATED) MAY CAUSE RESPIRATORY, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. SOME WOOD SPECIES MAY CAUSE DERMATITIS AND/OR ALLERGIC RESPIRATORY EFFECTS. THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC) HAS CLASSIFIED UNTREATED HARDWOOD OR HARDWOOD/SOFTWOOD MIXTURES OF WOOD DUST AS A HUMAN CARCINOGEN. NTP HAS CLASSIFIED ALL UNTREATED WOOD DUST AS A CARCINOGEN.

- Avoid wood dust contact with ignition source.
- Handling treated or untreated wood may result in skin exposure to splinters.
- When sawing or cutting treated or untreated wood, wear a NIOSH approved N95, N99 or P100 dust mask.
- DO NOT BURN TREATED WOOD

FIRST AID: If wood dust is inhaled, remove to fresh air. In case of eye and/or skin contact, flush with water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

For additional information, call the phone number below and Customer Service or a Technical Services Manager will send you a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

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