



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**  
**Office of Chemical Safety**

Dr Sharon Pike  
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**Attention: Robyn Schipp**

Dear Sharon

**CR351-1 Revision of fenthion OH&S assessment**

I am pleased to provide a draft report to fulfil the requirements of CR351-1. The report will remain draft until we receive and respond to comments from the APVMA and receive clearance from the OCS Branch Head.

The recommendations to the APVMA are copied below. There are some use patterns which are not supported and significant changes recommended to the FAISD entries for the currently-registered/under-permit products.

I hope this work suits your needs

Yours sincerely

Jack Dempsey  
Director  
Chemical Reconsideration,  
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Assessment Team  
Office of Chemical Safety  
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## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE APVMA

Following an OHS risk assessment the following recommendations are made for fenthion-containing products currently registered/under permit in Australia.

1. The OCS recommends that the APVMA should NOT be satisfied that the likely occupational exposure to fenthion when using hand-held applications is acceptable, including for the control of adult mosquitoes. The only exceptions being when the fenthion product is used in accordance with the amended label instructions in the treatment of stagnant water for the control of mosquito larvae using high pressure hand-held spray equipment provided that mixers, loaders, and applicators wear gloves, an additional layer of overalls, and a washable hat, and in the control of adult mosquitoes and larvae in septic tanks based on a qualitative assessment. In particular, OCS recommends that APVMA should NOT be satisfied that the application of products containing fenthion by backpack equipment is acceptable, except when applied with a Spot-On Gun or Dial-a-dose cup for the treatment of cattle.
2. The OCS recommends that the APVMA can be satisfied that all fenthion products will not cause adverse effects to the health and safety of persons preparing and applying these products when used in accordance with the amended label instructions regarding safety directions, precautionary statements and re-entry statements.
3. The following Safety Directions and engineering controls for fenthion products are recommended. The Hazard and PPE codes will be included in the FAISD Handbook and the plain English text should be included on the product label.

### Amended entry

EC 600 g/L or less in xylene 350 g/L or less

Hazard and PPE codes	
130 133 161 162 164 210 211 190 220 223 279 281 290 292d 294c 279 280 286, 290 292d 294c 301 307 289 290 292d 294c 340 342 340 343 350 360 361 362 366	<p>Poisonous if swallowed Will irritate the eyes and skin Avoid contact with eyes and skin Repeated minor exposure may have a cumulative poisoning effect Do not inhale spray mist When preparing spray wear cotton overalls, over normal clothing, buttoned to the neck and wrist and a washable hat, and elbow-length chemical resistant gloves When opening the container and pouring large quantities, wear cotton overalls, over normal clothing, buttoned to the neck and wrist and a washable hat, elbow-length chemical resistant gloves and a full facepiece respirator with organic vapour cartridge If applying by hand, wear cotton overalls, over normal clothing, buttoned to the neck and wrist and a washable hat, and elbow-length chemical resistant gloves If product on skin, immediately wash area with soap and water If product in eyes, wash it out immediately with water After use and before eating, drinking or smoking, wash hands, arms and face thoroughly with soap and water After each day's use, wash gloves and contaminated clothing</p>

**Amend entry**

LC SA 270 g/L or less

Hazard and PPE codes	
129 131 133 160 162 164 210 211 190 279 283 290 294c 340 343 340 342 351 360 361	Harmful if absorbed by skin contact or swallowed May irritate the eyes and skin Avoid contact with eyes and skin Repeated minor exposure may have a cumulative poisoning effect When using the product, wear elbow-length chemical resistant gloves If product in eyes, wash it out immediately with water If product on skin, immediately wash area with soap and water Wash hands after use After each day's use, wash gloves

**Amend entry**

DU 15 g/kg or less

Hazard and PPE codes	
120 129 133 210 211 220 221 279 283 290 294c 315 302 351 360 361	Product harmful if swallowed. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Do not inhale dust. When using the product wear elbow-length chemical resistant gloves and a disposable respirator with dust cartridge or canister. Wash hands after use. After each day's use, wash gloves.

**Delete entry**

HG EC 125 g/L or less in xylene 750 g/L or less

Hazard and PPE codes	
129 132 133 160 162 164 210 211 220 223 279 283 290 292d 312 340 342 340 343 350 360 361 366	Harmful if inhaled or swallowed May irritate the eyes and skin Avoid contact with the eyes and skin Do not inhale spray mist When using the product, wear cotton overalls, over normal clothing, buttoned to the neck and wrist and a washable hat, and rubber gloves If product on skin, immediately wash area with soap and water If product in eyes, wash it out immediately with water After use and before eating, drinking or smoking, wash hands, arms and face thoroughly with soap and water after each day's use, wash gloves and contaminated clothing

**Delete entry**

HG EC 125 g/L for aqueous formulations with surfactant 50 g/L or less

Hazard and PPE codes	
129 132 133 220 223 279 283 290 292d 312 350	Harmful if inhaled or swallowed Do not inhale spray mist When using the product, wear cotton overalls, over normal clothing, buttoned to the neck and wrist and a washable hat, and rubber gloves After use and before eating, drinking or smoking, wash hands, arms and face thoroughly with soap and water

Based on the risk quantitative assessment in this report OSC recommends that the use of fenthion in ready to use paint/grease not be supported. Therefore the following entry should be deleted from the FAISD handbook.

### Delete existing entry

PA 120 g/kg or less in grease

Hazard and PPE codes	
129 133 161 162 164 210 211 290 312 351 360 361	Harmful if swallowed. Will irritate the eyes and skin. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Wear rubber gloves. Wash hands after use. After each day's use, wash gloves.

Existing safety directions as they appear in the FAISD handbook contain an entry for AL 110 g/L in xylene 70 g/L or less (AL = other liquid formulations). As there are is longer any of this type of product registered for use in Australia, the adequacy of the SD cannot be confirmed and therefore should be deleted from the FAISD handbook.

### Delete entries

AL 110 g/L in xylene 70 g/L or less  
 EC all strengths  
 LD 25 g/L or less in paraffin, light liquid

### Engineering controls

If applying to fruit and vegetable crops, DO NOT apply by open cab airblast systems.  
 If treating stagnant water, DO NOT apply by low-pressure handspray.  
 DO NOT apply using spray equipment carried on the back of the user, except when applying with a Spot-On Gun or Dial-a-dose cup for the treatment of cattle.

#### 4. Re-entry statements

The following re-entry statements are recommended:

**Restricted-entry statement:** For capsicums & chilli peppers and pineapple crops, do not allow entry into treated areas prior to 6 days. For banana crops, do not allow entry into treated areas prior to 8 days. For apples, pears, pomegranate, grapes, kiwi, and passionfruit crops, do not allow entry into treated areas prior to 10 days. For grapefruit, lemons, mangoes, oranges, papaya, avocado, sapote, breadfruit, jackfruit, durian, tamarind, longan, lychee, persimmon, feijoa, loquats, mangosteen, sapodilla and rambutan crops, do not allow entry into treated areas prior to 11 days. If early re-entry is required wear cotton overalls buttoned to the neck and wrist (or equivalent clothing) and chemical resistant gloves. Clothing must be laundered after each day's use.