

This document provides examples of items to put in a customer checklist to help building occupants and owners prepare for a structural fumigation with Vikane® gas fumigant.

The items listed below are required to be conducted by the labeling for Vikane. If the customer does not prepare items as required by the labeling, it is the responsibility of the certified applicator in charge to ensure these actions are completed prior to fumigating the building with Vikane.

- Food, feed, drugs (including tobacco products), and medicinals (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) can remain in the building if they are in plastic, glass, or metal bottles, cans, or jars with the original manufacturer's air-tight seal intact. Otherwise, these items need to be removed from the building or double bagged in Nylofume® bags, which are available from the fumigator.
- EXCEPTION: Opened items that do not need to be removed or sealed in Nylofume bags include dental hygiene products (including toothpaste, mouthwash, dental adhesives, and dental whitening products), cosmetics including lipstick, all externally applied lotions and ointments, ice and water.
- Open operable internal doors, internal openings to attics and sub areas, storage chests, cabinets, drawers, closets, and appliances (such as washers, dishwashers, dryers, microwave or conventional ovens, etc.).
- For mattresses (excluding waterbeds) and pillows completely enveloped in waterproof coverings, do one of the following: 1) open the seal of the water proof covering or 2) remove the mattress or pillow from the space to be fumigated if the waterproof covering cannot be opened. Mattresses and pillows with waterproof coverings containing built-in vents designed to permit air passage are considered to have an open seal to the waterproof covering and can remain as-is in the fumigated space.
- All heating elements must be unplugged (heaters, pianos, organs, etc.).
- All pilot lights must be extinguished (hot water heaters, ranges, ovens, broilers, gas refrigerators, dryers, automatic lighting systems, etc.).
- Make arrangements to turn off all gas at main valve or tank.
- Water the ground around shrubs and plants located adjacent to the building foundation.
- All people must leave and all domestic animals, pets, and desirable growing plants must be removed from your building before the fumigation begins.
- Remove fish tanks containing live fish, or remove the fish, or develop a plan for preparing the tank for fumigation. If necessary, exclude water in the tank and biological filters, if present, from the fumigated space by sealing with gas resistant tarps or sheeting. If water aeration is required during fumigation, provide fresh air from outside the fumigated space for the tank aerator.
- The law requires that all buildings be locked during a fumigation. In addition, all buildings shall have a secondary lock/barricade on all exterior doors during the fumigation.
- Notify the company prior to the fumigation if any conduits, tunnels, pathways, etc., are connecting the building to be fumigated to any other structure.
- The fumigated structure must not be reentered until it has been declared cleared for reentry by the licensed fumigator.

The items below are not required by the labeling for Vikane® gas fumigant, but are often required by fumigation companies based on their experience in conducting structural fumigation. Check with your state requirements for structural fumigation to see if additional notifications are required of building owners and occupants prior to fumigation.

- Shut off automatic switch controls for appliances and lighting systems that will be included in the space to be fumigated.
- Electricity must be available, as it will be required to run fans during the fumigation period.
- For tarpaulin fumigation, cut back shrubbery and tree branches to prevent damage. Provide enough space (at least 12-18 inches) between the building and plantings for the tent to fall freely to the ground. Tree limbs growing over the roof must be trimmed back.
- For tarpaulin fumigation, mulch, rocks, stone, debris, etc. must be removed down to the soil or slab, or raked back 12-18 inches in the seal areas (adjacent to the building foundation). If Fumigation Company does this work for you, we will not be responsible for replacement unless previous arrangements have been made.
- For tarpaulin fumigation, fences, walls, lattice, etc. abutting the structure will need to be removed or detached, prior to fumigation. In the event that Fumigation Company needs to remove or detach a connected item to perform the fumigation, we are not responsible for replacement of the item(s) unless previous arrangements have been made.
- For tarpaulin fumigation, all screening such as those on patios, or pool coverings adjoining the structure must be removed to a distance of 3 feet from the structure.
- When adhesive fumigation tape must be used for sealing purposes, the fumigation company cannot be responsible for paint or plaster lifting off when the tape is removed.
- For tarpaulin fumigation, all obstructive articles, such as antenna guide wires or weather vanes, satellite dishes, lightning rods, etc., must be removed or addressed with the fumigator prior to the job. The Fumigation Company cannot be responsible for changes in TV reception after the fumigation is completed.
- Retract all awnings if possible for tarpaulin fumigation.
- The Fumigation Company will exercise due care in its fumigation procedures, but it will not be responsible for broken roof tiles, gutters, solar heaters, foliage or other inadvertent damage caused by properly performed procedures.
- It is most important that you make key arrangements with the company representative conducting the fumigation.
- During the fumigation and aeration procedure, the Fumigation Company will not be held responsible for vandalism, theft or breaking and entering. Fumigation Company personnel will not be present on the property the entire time of fumigation. Therefore, if you are concerned about security, you may consider hiring a guard service. If you hire a guard service, please notify us and make arrangements for our work at the structure at any time. If the structure is in a gated/guarded/secure area, please make arrangements as necessary to allow Fumigation Company personnel liberty to access the structure at all times.

It is recommended that an attorney review requirements in your company fumigation preparation checklist provided to customers.

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Vikane[®]

KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO BE BAGGED

SPECIALTY GAS FUMIGANT

Thank you for choosing Vikane[®] gas fumigant, the treatment that is proven to rid your home of drywood termites. Now that you have chosen whole-structure fumigation with Vikane, certain steps must be taken to keep food items and other perishable goods protected during the fumigation process. It is important to know exactly which household items need to be double-bagged in special Nylofume[®] bags.

Sealed items that will NOT require bagging:

- Any food, feed, drugs (including tobacco products) and medicinals if sealed in glass, plastic or metal bottles, jars or cans with the original manufacturer's airtight seal intact.

Opened items that will NOT require bagging:

- Dental hygiene products (including toothpaste, mouthwash, dental adhesives, and dental whitening products)
- Cosmetics, including lipstick, and all externally applied lotions and ointments
- Ice and water

Do not forget those items in refrigerators and freezers.

When in doubt, take it out.

Any products not listed above that may require protection should be bagged or removed from the structure being fumigated. If you have any questions about what should be bagged, please contact your local professional pest management company at:

SAMPLE ITEMS THAT MUST BE BAGGED OR REMOVED FROM THE STRUCTURE BEING FUMIGATED.



Any food, feed, drugs and medicinals if not sealed in glass, plastic or metal bottles, jars or cans with the original manufacturer's airtight seal intact.



Chips, pasta, bread, cereals, rice, cookies, crackers and any other items packaged in plastic, paper or cardboard bags or boxes, even if they have never been opened.



Beverages, snacks, sauces, drugs, medicinals or other items in metallic foil-lined containers such as pouches, boxes or blister packs.



Medicine, tobacco, vitamins and other ingestible pills, supplements and lozenges if not sealed in glass, plastic or metal jars or cans with the original manufacturer's seal intact.



Anything in resealable containers, including plastic containers, such as milk, butter, sour cream and cottage cheese.



Pet food and animal feed in bags and boxes.



Eggs, fruits, vegetables and any other forms of produce.

VIKANE® BAGGING INSTRUCTIONS

Nylofume® bags: The trusted way to protect food, feed, drugs and medicinals from fumigations with Vikane® gas fumigant.

Nylofume bags are made from a special nylon polymer film. Research has shown that these nylon polymer bags are very effective for protecting a wide variety of commodities from Vikane fumigations when used one inside the other. The Nylofume bags should be “doubled-up” before you fill them with items that need protection.

All items such as food, feed, drugs and medicinals not adequately packaged (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) must either be removed from the structure being fumigated or sealed in the protective Nylofume bags.



1. While bags are still empty, place one inside another.



2. Place items inside the inner bag. Do NOT overfill — leave clearance on top for closure of the bags.



3. Twist the top of the inner bag, fold once and secure the fold in place using tape or a twist tie.



4. Repeat Step 3 with the outer bag.



5. Check the seal by pressing gently against the sides of the bag and listening for air leaks. No air should be able to escape.

Important: Keep these and other such bags out of the reach of children.

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Solutions for the Growing World



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Vikane®

FACT SHEET FOR VIKANE® GAS FUMIGANT (SULFURYL FLUORIDE)

SPECIALTY GAS FUMIGANT

VIKANE® GAS FUMIGANT

In the interest of Douglas Products' commitment to product stewardship, this fact sheet is intended to provide basic information about the product and how it is used. If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. If you have questions about Vikane gas fumigant (the fumigant used) or the procedures described, call the Douglas Products Customer Information Center at 844-8VIKANE (844-884-5263)

WHY BUILDINGS ARE FUMIGATED

Insects that feed or tunnel into wood can seriously damage houses, apartments, and other dwellings or structures. Each year termites or other wood destroying insects damage more than 5 million homes. Other pests, such as bed bugs, may be dispersed throughout rooms and can be difficult to locate and control quickly and completely. Depending on the extent or location of the infestation, fumigation is the only total control method proven to eliminate certain infestations of wood destroying insects, bed bugs, and other structure-infesting pests.

HOW BUILDINGS ARE FUMIGATED

Because Vikane is a gas, prior to fumigation, the structure is completely sealed. This serves to contain Vikane in the building so it can penetrate wood and building contents to thoroughly eliminate the pests. Depending on the construction of the building, the doors and windows may be sealed with tape and a plastic sheet, or the structure may be covered with a tarp. The building will remain sealed for 2-72 hours depending on the specifics of the job. Warning signs are posted around the building notifying people to keep out.

After the fumigation period is completed, a professional

fumigator will aerate the structure using fans for a prescribed aeration period. Once the dwelling has been thoroughly aerated, the fumigator is required to measure the level of any fumigant remaining in the living space to ensure it is below the EPA approved concentration for reentry by the occupants. Extremely low levels of fumigant can remain for a short period of time in dead air spaces between walls and inside cabinets as well as porous materials such as furniture. The small amount of fumigant in these areas will continue to dissipate for a few hours after the fumigation but at levels well below the established safe reentry concentration. Your building will not be cleared for reoccupancy until it is safe to enter. The fumigator will post a notice on your building indicating the day and time for reentry. Structures can be occupied only when the concentration is 1 part per million or less (this represents a margin of safety – laboratory animals have been exposed to 100 parts per million for 2 weeks with no adverse effects). Because Vikane is a true gas and not a vapor, aeration is rapid. Recent studies demonstrated that in most structures levels are less than 1 part per million after the prescribed aeration period and have no detectable levels of Vikane within 24 hours after the start of aeration.

Sulfuryl fluoride is a colorless, odorless gas, so a warning agent is added to the building that causes watery eyes and a scratchy throat. If you experience these symptoms in a structure that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

SULFURYL FLUORIDE (POTENTIAL HEALTH RISKS FROM OVEREXPOSURE)

Sulfuryl fluoride is a gas that can potentially enter your body only through inhalation. Because it is a gas, it does not stay on dry surfaces; therefore, there is no exposure from touching treated surfaces.

NERVOUS SYSTEM AND RESPIRATORY IRRITATION

Overexposure to high levels of sulfuryl fluoride can result in nose and throat irritation and nausea. At high concentrations (such as those used during the fumigation) it can cause excess fluid in the lungs, sleepiness, pneumonia, and convulsions. These symptoms would be expected to appear within 8 hours after such an exposure. In the unlikely event you experience these symptoms in the building that has been recently fumigated, you should leave immediately. Consult your physician and call the pest control company to have your building retested.

ADDITIONAL STUDIES

Sulfuryl fluoride has not been shown to cause birth defects in pregnant animals exposed under experimental conditions. In addition, current studies have demonstrated there are not mutagenic or genotoxic effects caused by exposure to sulfuryl fluoride.

QUESTIONS

If you have specific questions about your fumigation, refer to documents provided by the fumigator or call the fumigator listed on the warning signs posted on your structure. Call the Douglas Products Customer Information Center at 844-8VIKANE (844-884-5263) if you need additional information or have questions concerning this product.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND HOMEOWNER PREPARATION

- Discuss the treatment program in advance with your pest control company so you fully understand what will be done and what you need to do.
- Carefully follow the instructions you are given about what items you are to remove from your building.
- Stay out of the treated building until it is cleared by your pest control company for reentry.
- If you are interested or concerned, you should ask your pest control company to show the records of how your building was aerated before it was cleared for reentry.
- You may wish to increase ventilation by opening doors and windows.

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