

FAO SPECIFICATIONS  
FOR PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

PHENTHOATE  
S - *a* - ethoxycarbonylbenzyl 00-dimethyl phosphorodithioate

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
Rome, 1980

## **DISCLAIMER<sup>1</sup>**

FAO specifications are developed with the basic objective of promoting, as far as practicable, the manufacture, distribution and use of pesticides that meet basic quality requirements.

Compliance with the specifications does not constitute an endorsement or warranty of the fitness of a particular pesticide for a particular purpose, including its suitability for the control of any given pest, or its suitability for use in a particular area. Owing to the complexity of the problems involved, the suitability of pesticides for a particular purpose and the content of the labelling instructions must be decided at the national or provincial level.

Furthermore, pesticides which are manufactured to comply with these specifications are not exempted from any safety regulation or other legal or administrative provision applicable to their manufacture, sale, transportation, storage, handling, preparation and/or use.

FAO disclaims any and all liability for any injury, death, loss, damage or other prejudice of any kind that may arise as a result of, or in connection with, the manufacture, sale, transportation, storage, handling, preparation and/or use of pesticides which are found, or are claimed, to have been manufactured to comply with these specifications.

Additionally, FAO wishes to alert users to the fact that improper storage, handling, preparation and/or use of pesticides can result in either a lowering or complete loss of safety and/or efficacy.

FAO is not responsible, and does not accept any liability, for the testing of pesticides for compliance with the specifications, nor for any methods recommended and/or used for testing compliance. As a result, FAO does not in any way warrant or represent that any pesticide claimed to comply with a FAO specification actually does so.

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<sup>1</sup> This disclaimer applies to all specifications published by FAO.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FAO SPECIFICATIONS DEVELOPED UNDER THE OLD PROCEDURE**

Between 1975 and 2000, FAO published booklets of specifications for technical materials and related formulations of plant protection products. Revisions of, and additions to, already published specifications will be issued when necessary. However, all changes and revisions of FAO specifications are now subject to the new procedure described in the *Manual on the development and use of FAO and WHO Specifications for Plant Protection Products*, FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper No. 173, Rome 2002 (Revised First Edition available only on the FAO home page of the Internet at: <http://www.fao.org/ag/agp/agpp/pestcid/>)

FAO specifications developed under the old procedure are based on the requirements defined in the Fourth Edition of the *Manual on the development and use of FAO specifications for plant protection products*, Plant Production and Protection Paper No. 128, Rome 1995.

This manual contained detailed definitions and other essential background information on basic procedures and technical principles adopted by the group on Pesticide Specifications of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Specifications, Registration Requirements, Application Standards and Prior Informed Consent, such as:

### 1. Categories of Specifications (Section 3.1 of the Manual)

**FAO Tentative Specifications** (Code 'S/T', formerly 'TS') are those which have been recommended by FAO as preliminary specifications and which are based on minimum requirements. The methods of analysis cited are normally supplied by the manufacturer or may already have been published or be the subject of collaborative work.

**FAO Provisional Specifications** [Code 'S/P', formerly ('S')] are those for which more evidence of the necessary parameters is available and where some collaborative study of the methods of analysis has been carried out.

**FAO (full) Specifications** (Code 'S/F', formerly 'S').

Specifications that have all necessary requirements together with CIPAC (full) methods, or other collaboratively studied (proven) methods.<sup>2,3</sup>

Wherever possible, standards for apparatus and common names for pesticides are those approved by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

### 2. Expression of active ingredient content (Section 4.2.5 of the Manual)

- for solids, liquid technical materials, volatile liquids (of maximum boiling point 50°C) and viscous liquids (with minimum kinematic viscosity of  $1 \times 10^3 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$  at 20°C) the FAO Specification shall be based on expression of the content as g/kg;

- for all other liquids the active ingredient content of the product shall be declared in terms of g/kg *or* g/l at 20°C. If the customer requires both g/kg *and* g/l at 20°C, then in case of dispute the analytical results shall be calculated as g/kg.

### 3. Tolerance on content (Section 4.2.7 of the Manual)

A declared content of active ingredient must be included in all specifications, and one of the problems immediately arising is the level of tolerance acceptable about the nominal figure. The tolerance is influenced by (a) the reproducibility of the method of analysis, (b) the sampling error and (c) the manufacturing variance.

Allowable variations in analytical results (i.e. tolerances in content of active ingredient) with respect to specific pesticide consignments are intended to cover reasonable variations in the contents of active ingredients. For examples of such tolerances, see the table in Section 4.2.7 of the Manual.

### 4. Containers/packaging

FAO guidelines are in preparation.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

#### Technical materials, dustable powders and granules

Containers shall be suitable, clean, dry and as specified, and shall not adversely affect, or be affected by, the contents, but shall adequately protect them against external conditions.

#### Wettable powders

The product shall be packed in suitable, clean, dry containers as specified in the order. The container shall provide all necessary protection against compaction, atmospheric moisture, loss by vaporization and/or contamination to ensure that the product suffers no deterioration under normal transit and storage conditions.

The product shall be protected by an adequate moisture barrier. This may be a suitable bag of polyethylene or alternative means of giving equal or better protection.

#### Solutions and emulsifiable concentrates

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces shall be treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Additional information should be given in all specifications where particular pesticides present problems in packaging.

## 5. Biological information

### Phytotoxicity

No test can be specified to cover the possible phytotoxicity of a formulation to all crops. When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

### Wetting of crops

The dilute spray should satisfactorily wet the leaves of the specified crops when used in accordance with the instructions. Test method MT 53.2, CIPAC F, p.162, may be useful.

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<sup>1</sup> Should national pesticide specifications developed from these approved FAO specifications deviate from them, the National Authority responsible for making such changes is requested to inform the FAO Plant Protection Service of the nature of, and the reasons for, the modifications.

<sup>2</sup> Methods of analysis and miscellaneous techniques referred to in these specifications have been developed and adopted by CIPAC (Collaborative International Pesticides Analytical Council Ltd.). See CIPAC Handbooks 1 (1970), 1A (1980), 1B (1983), 1C (1985), D (1988), E (1993), F (1995), G (1995), CIPAC Proceedings 1980 and 1981, obtainable from Black Bear Press Limited, King's Hedges Road, Cambridge CB4 2PQ, England. The page numbers of specific methods are given in parentheses in the specifications. Copies of methods not yet published can be obtained from the FAO Plant Protection Service.

<sup>3</sup> Information on standard waters for laboratory evaluation of pesticidal formulations will be found in CIPAC Monograph 1, Standard Waters and an FAO Survey on Naturally Occurring Waters (1972), Black Bear Press Limited, King's Hedges Road, Cambridge CB4 2PQ, England.

## **SUBMISSION OF DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS TO FAO**

Any organization, commercial firm or interested individual is encouraged to submit relevant specifications, or proposals for revision of existing specifications, for pesticide products for consideration and possible adoption by FAO. Correspondence should be addressed to the Pesticide Management Group, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy.

General guidelines on preparing draft specifications are given in the *Manual on the development and use of FAO and WHO Specifications for Plant Protection Products*, FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper No. 173, Rome 2002 (Revised First Edition available only on the FAO home page of the Internet at: <http://www.fao.org/ag/agpp/pestcid/>).

Specifications which are considered suitable for further processing are assigned priorities and circulated to appropriate organizations and specialists to comment. Comments, together with other relevant information, are then reviewed in detail by the Group on Specifications of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Specifications, Registration Requirements, Application Standards and Prior Informed Consent. The drafts are converted into FAO Provisional Specifications, or full FAO Specifications.

## PHENTHOATE TECHNICAL

FAO Specification Code 108/1/ts/5

### .1 DESCRIPTION

The material shall consist, essentially, of technical phenthoate together with related manufacturing impurities, and shall be a liquid free from extraneous materials and added modifying agents.

### .2 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

#### .2.1 *Identity Test* (108/1/m/1.2)<sup>1</sup>

It shall comply

#### .2.2 *Phenthoate Content* (-/m/1.3)<sup>1</sup>

The phenthoate content shall be declared (minimum declared 90.0%) and, when determined, the content shall not differ from that declared by more than  $\pm$  2 percentage units.

### .3 IMPURITIES

#### .3.1 *P=0 Phenthoate* (-/m/1.4)<sup>1</sup>

Maximum: 0.5%

#### .3.2 *Acidity* (MT 31.1.1/MT 31.2.1)

Maximum: 0.3% calculated as H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

#### .3.3 *Water* (MT 30.1)

Maximum: 0.5%

#### .3.4 *Material Insoluble in Acetone* (MT 27)

Maximum: 0.5%

### .4 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be suitable, clean, dry and as specified in the order. They shall not affect, or be affected by, the product, but shall adequately protect it from external influences.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> Methods in CIPAC 1A (otherwise CIPAC 1)

## PHENTHOATE DUSTS

### FAO Specification Code 108/2/ts/5

#### .1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a homogeneous mixture containing phenthoate (complying with 108/1/ts/5) as the only active ingredient, together with suitable carriers and any necessary formulants. It shall be a fine, free-flowing dustable material, free from visible extraneous matter and hard lumps.

#### .2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

##### .2.1 *Identity* (108/2/m/1.2)<sup>1</sup>

Where the identity is in question the material shall comply with the test.

##### .2.2 *Phenthoate Content* (-/m/1.3)<sup>1</sup>

The phenthoate content of the product shall be declared and, when determined, the content obtained shall not differ from that declared by more than  $\pm 10\%$  of the declared content.

#### .3 IMPURITIES

##### .3.1 *Acidity or Alkalinity* (MT 31.1.2)

Maximum acidity: 0.1%, calculated as H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Maximum alkalinity: 0.2%, calculated as NaOH

#### .4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

##### .4.1 *Dry Sieve Test* (MT 59.1)

Minimum: Not more than 5% of the product shall be retained on a 75 um test sieve.

Note more than (0.15 x x)% of the weight of the sample used for the determination shall be present as phenthoate in the residue on the 75 um test sieve, where x is the percentage of phenthoate declared under 2.2 (Note 1).

##### .4.2<sup>2</sup> *Flowability* (MT 44)

Maximum flow number: 12

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<sup>1</sup> Methods in CIPAC 1A (otherwise CIPAC 1)

<sup>2</sup> For information

## .5 STORAGE STABILITY

### .5.1 *Stability at 54°C (MT 46.1.4)*

After storage at  $54 \pm 2^\circ \text{C}$  for 14 days the product shall continue to comply with .2.2 (except that the minimum permitted phenthionate content shall be 95% of that declared under .2.2) and .3.1 (except that the maximum permitted acidity shall be 0.5% calculated as  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and .4.1.

## .6 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be suitable, clean, dry and as specified in the order. They shall not affect, or be affected by, the product, but shall adequately protect it from external influences.

Containers shall comply with the pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

## .7 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### .7.1<sup>2</sup> *Phytotoxicity*

At the present stage of our knowledge, no tests can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a certain crop is not specifically mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier to ensure that the material is suitable, always provided that the proposed use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

$$\frac{(0.15 \times x) \times \text{weight of sample}}{100} \text{ g}$$

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<sup>2</sup> For information

## PHENTHOATE DISPERSIBLE POWDERS

FAO Specification Code 108/3/ts/5

### .1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a homogeneous mixture containing phentoate (complying with 108/1/ts/5) as the only active ingredient, together with suitable fillers and any necessary formulants. It shall be a fine powder, free from visible extraneous material and hard lumps.

### .2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

#### .2.1 *Identity* (108/3/m31.2)<sup>1</sup>

Where the identity is in question the material shall comply with the test.

#### .2.2 *Phentoate Content* (-/m/1.3)<sup>1</sup>

The phentoate content of the product shall be declared and when determined, the content obtained shall not differ from that declared by more than  $\pm 5\%$  of the declared content.

### .3 IMPURITIES

#### .3.1 *Acidity or Alkalinity* (MT 31.2.2)

Maximum acidity: 0.3%, calculated as H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Maximum Alkalinity: 0.1%, calculated as NaOH

### .4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

#### .4.1 *Wet Sieve Test* (MT 59.3)

Minimum: Not more than 2% of the product shall be retained on a 75 um test sieve.

#### .4.2 *Suspensibility* (MT.15.1)

A minimum of 60% of the phentoate content declared under .2.2 shall be in suspension after 30 min. In CIPAC Standard Water A, when determined on the product as received, and 50% in CIPAC Standard Water C after the Stability Test at 54°C (.5.1).

Alternatively, if the buyer requires other CIPAC Standard Waters to be used, it should be specified accordingly when ordering.

#### .4.3 *Wettability of the Powder* (MT 53.3.1)

It shall be completely wetted in 1 min, without swirling.

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<sup>1</sup> Methods in CIPAC 1A (otherwise CIPAC 1)

#### **.4.4 Persistent Foam (MT 47)**

Maximum: 25 ml of foam after 1 min.

### **.5 STORAGE STABILITY**

#### **.5.1 Stability at 54°C (MT 46.1.2)**

After storage at  $54 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  for 14 days, the product shall continue to comply with .2.2 (except that the minimum permitted phenoate content shall be 95% of that declared under .2.2), .3.1 (except that the maximum permitted acidity shall be 0.5% calculated as  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), .4.1 and .4.3.

### **.6 CONTAINERS**

The product shall be packed in suitable, clean, dry containers as specified in the order. The container shall provide all necessary protection against compaction, atmospheric moisture, oxidation, loss by vaporization and/or contamination with the container material, to ensure that the product suffers no deterioration under normal transit and storage conditions.

The product shall be protected by an adequate moisture barrier, This may be an inner bag of polyethylene (Note 2) or alternative means of giving equal or better protection.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

### **.7 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

#### **.7.1<sup>2</sup> Phytotoxicity**

At the present stage of our knowledge, no tests can be specified to cover the phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a certain crop is not specifically mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier to ensure that the material is suitable, always provided that the proposed use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

#### **.7.2<sup>2</sup> Wetting of Crops (MT 53.2)**

The dilute spray shall satisfactorily wet the leaves of the specified crops when used in accordance with the instructions. The wetting test specified may be useful.

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<sup>2</sup> For information

# PHENTHOATE EMULSIFIABLE CONCENTRATES

FAO Specification Code 108/5/ts/5

## .1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of an emulsifiable concentrate based on phenthoate (complying with 108/1/ts/5) as the only active ingredient, together with suitable solvents and any necessary formulants. It shall be free from visible suspended matter and sediment.

## .2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

### .2.1 *Identity* (108/5/m/1.3)<sup>1</sup>

### .2.2 *Phenthoate Content* (-/M/1.4)

The phenthoate content shall be declared (% w/w and/or g/l at 20°C) (Note 3) and, when determined, the content obtained shall not differ from that declared by more than  $\pm 5\%$  of the declared content.

## .3 IMPURITIES

### .3.1 *Acidity or Alkalinity* (MT 31.1.3/MT 31.2.3)

Maximum acidity: 0.2%, calculated as H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Maximum alkalinity: 0.1%, calculated as NaOH

### .3.2 *Water* (MT 30.1)

Maximum: 0.5%

## .4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

### .4.1 *Emulsion Stability and Re-emulsification* (MT 36.1)

After the Stability at 54°C test (.5.2), the product when diluted at 30°C (Note 4) with the specified CIPAC Standard Waters, shall comply with the following:

Time after Dilution	Limits of Stability	
0 h	Initial Emulsification: Complete	
0.5 h	Cream:	Maximum 0.5 ml
2.0 h	Cream:	Maximum 2 ml
	Free Oil:	Maximum 0.5 ml
24.0 h	Re-emulsification: Complete	
24.5 h	Cream:	Maximum 1 ml
	Free Oil:	Maximum 0.5 ml

The product shall be tested in Standard Water A and in Standard Water C. (note 5).

<sup>1</sup> Methods in CIPAC 1A (otherwise CIPAC 1)

#### *.4.2<sup>2</sup> Flash Point (MT 12)*

The flash point of the product shall not be lower than the minimum declared flash point. The procedure used shall be stated, e.g. Abel Method (Note 6)

### **.5 STORAGE STABILITY**

#### *.5.1 Stability at 0°C (MT 39.1)*

After storage at  $0 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  (Note 7) for 7 days, the volume of solid and/or liquid which separates shall be not more than 0.3%.

#### *.5.2 Stability at 54°C (MT 46.1.3)*

After storage at  $54 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  for 14 days, the concentrate shall continue to comply with .2.2 (except that the minimum permitted phenoxy content shall be 95% of that declared under .2.2), .3.1 (except that the maximum permitted acidity shall be 0.5% calculated as  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and, .4.1.

### **.6 CONTAINERS**

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces shall be treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

### **.7 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

#### *.7.1<sup>2</sup> Phytotoxicity*

At the present stage of our knowledge, no tests can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a certain crop is not specifically mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier to ensure that the material is suitable always provided that the proposed use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

#### *.7.2<sup>2</sup> Wetting of Crops (MT 53.2)*

The dilute spray shall satisfactorily wet the leaves of the specified crops, when used in accordance with the instruction. The wetting specified may be useful.

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<sup>2</sup> For information

## NOTES

Note 1: e.g. If the dust contains a declared content of 5% phenthroate and 20g of sample is used in the test, then the amount of phenthroate in the residue on the sieve should not exceed 0.15 g, i.e.

Note 2: Because of variation in the nature and size of the container, its destination and other factors, it is not possible to specify the thickness of the polyethylene, but as a guideline, for a container with 50 kg of product, the inner liner should not be less than 0.075 mm thick.

Note 3: If the customer requires both % w/w and g/l at 20°C, in case of dispute, the analytical results should be expressed as % w/w.

Note 4: Unless another temperature is specified.

Note 5: Unless other CIPAC Standard Waters are specified.

Note 6: Attention is drawn to the appropriate national and international regulations concerning handling and transport of flammable material.

Note 7: A test temperature of 0°C may not be suitable for products for use in cold climates and, in such cases, an alternative test temperature may be specified.