



# HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT

## Locust control operations Insecticide container with no lid

### INCIDENT

During the delivery of insecticide to a Forward Command Post (FCP), a courier had insecticide spilt on his arms during unloading of a delivery. The insecticide was split from an insecticide carton one of which had a container of insecticide not fitted with a lid.

### CIRCUMSTANCES

The transport company courier was delivering sealed cartons of containers of insecticide from their central warehouse to the chemical store of the FCP. The warehouse stored further cartons of the same insecticide that had been provided by same manufacturer as that of the incident.

Other than the driver, no other personnel had contact with the insecticide. There was no environmental contamination.

### INVESTIGATION

The incident has been investigated by the State Coordination Centre responsible for the Locust control operations. This included notification of RLPB/LHPAs, the central transport warehouse and the insecticide manufacturer. The carton from which the spill occurred had a container of insecticide that was never fitted with a lid. No lid was evident in the box.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The following actions have been implemented and are to be maintained for this and similar incidents by those within the Locust control operation.

1. Maintain incident notification to and by the RLPB/LHPAs, central warehouse and insecticide manufacturer.
2. RLPB/LHPAs to check all delivered containers of insecticide to ensure lids are in place and secure – wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
3. Report any incident using normal procedures where lids are missing or loose, or insecticide leaks are evident in cartons.
4. Check spill kits at RLPB/LHPAs chemical stores are complete and current for the insecticide stored. Check label and material safety data sheets (MSDS) for requirements if an incident occurs.
5. Check for lids on all containers at central transport and manufacturer warehouses prior to deliveries.
6. Precautions should be taken to ensure any possible spills during transport are contained during the loading and unloading of insecticide during transport.

If actions cannot be implemented, notify the next level of management.

**NOTE:** Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this Health & Safety Alert, and are informed of its content and recommendations. This Health & Safety Alert should be processed in a systematic manner through the site's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the site's notice board.

**Controller  
State Coordination Centre  
NSW Department of Primary Industries**

View more safety alerts at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/management/operational-guidelines/health-safety>.

1. Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB), Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA)