

## **DPI Primefact**

# Understanding Labels for Chemical Controls of Varroa

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Author Kelly Lees, Education Officer, Honey Bees NSW DPI

#### Note

This information applies to products registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) for use in Australia. Labels on products registered in other countries may look different.

#### Introduction

Chemicals registered for Varroa control will have a label affixed to, printed on, or attached to the container, packet, or box. The label may consist of written, printed, and graphical information.

Labels contain information on the identity and proportions of the chemical and its constituents or ingredients. They also contain information on the hazards of the chemical, precautions to be followed during its use, handling and storage, and instructions for the safe disposal of the chemical.

You should always read and understand the information on a label before using a chemical product. Following the label directions is the law.

NOTE: Labels do not always contain all relevant information for safe handling, particularly if something goes wrong. Ensure you refer to the relevant Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Link to SDS prime fact

#### What's on a label?

The information written on labels can vary. Products may be available with additional materials or booklets that expand on label content. Not all labels contain all sections discussed below and some may contain additional sections.

- 1. **Signal heading and instructions** a relative indication of the severity of the hazard e.g., CAUTION, WARNING etc., KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN, ECOTOXIC
- 2. Brand or trade name e.g., MITE KILLER
- **3. Type of chemical** a broad description of what the chemical does e.g., Insecticide, herbicide etc.
- **4. Active Constituent and concentration** the part of the chemical that does the work and its percentage e.g., 350mg of knock-em-dead per strip
- 5. What the chemical does- e.g., For the treatment and control of Varroa mites in beehives
- 6. Details of manufacturer Name, address, and phone number
- **7. Hazard pictograms** are a graphical representation of the chemical's hazardous properties for easy recognition e.g.,







Corrosive



Severe Health Hazards

Hazard statements - e.g., Harmful to aquatic life, May cause respiratory irritation

**8. Directions for use and general instructions** – including how the product is to be applied, withholding periods (e.g., time before harvesting) and restraint (e.g., conditions under which the chemical cannot be used).

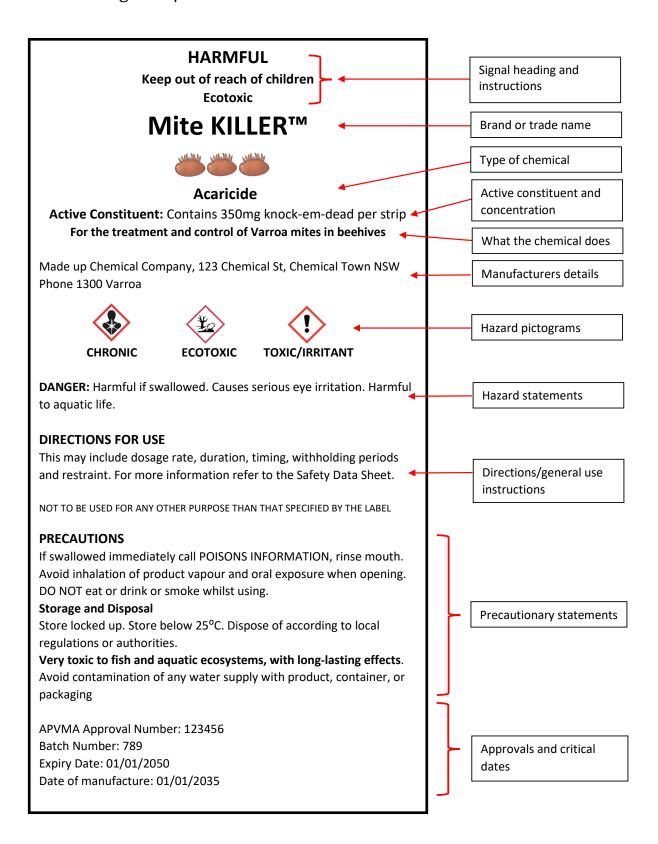
This section may also include a NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE... Statement, which limits the use of the product to APVMA approved purposes only.

- **9. Precautionary statements** describes recommended measures to minimise or eliminate risks when handling, using, disposing, or storing the chemical. There are four precautionary statements covering PREVENTION, RESPONSE, STORAGE and DISPOSAL
- e.g., Do not breath dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray
  Dispose of contents in accordance with local regulations
- **10. APVMA approval number, batch number, date of manufacture and expiry date** all farm chemicals MUST be approved by the APVMA.

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#### What does a label look like?

The following example is a fictitious chemical label:



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#### **Key Take Home Messages**

- 1. Always read and follow the directions on the label
- 2. Follow the use, handling, storage, and disposal rules on the label
- 3. An SDS provides different information to a product label
- 4. Always have the SDS available for reference
- 5. If in doubt, check the SDS

### Acknowledgements

For more information on labelling of veterinary chemicals see - <u>Understanding Pesticide Chemical Labels - English Booklet (apvma.gov.au)</u> For more information on labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals visit: <u>www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au</u> Adapted by K.Lees from: APVMA Understanding Pesticide Chemical Labels - English Booklet and Safe Work Australia-Understanding Hazardous Chemicals Labels

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