

NOTICE

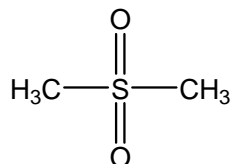
Dimethyl Sulfone

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has before it an application for the approval of a new active constituent, dimethyl sulfone. Dimethyl sulfone is an organic sulfur-containing compound that occurs naturally in a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains and in animals, including humans in trace amounts. Dimethyl sulfone serves as an important source of bioavailable sulphur.

In accordance with section 12 of the Agvet Code, the APVMA invites any person to submit a relevant written submission as to whether the application for approval of dimethyl sulfone should be granted. Submissions should state the grounds on which they are based. Such grounds should relate only to the matters that the APVMA is required to take into account in deciding whether to grant the approval. Comments must be received by the APVMA within 28 days of the date of this Gazette.

Particulars of the Active Constituent

Common Name: dimethyl sulfone
IUPAC Name: Methylsulfonylmethane
CAS Number: 67-71-0
Minimum Purity: 975 g/kg
Molecular Formula: C₂H₆OS
Molecular Weight: 94.13
Structure:



Summary of the APVMA's Evaluation of Dimethyl Sulfone Active Constituent

The Chemistry and Residues Program of the APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of dimethyl sulfone active constituent (manufacturing process, quality control procedures, batch analysis results and analytical methods) and found them to be acceptable.

On the basis of the data provided, it is proposed that the following APVMA Active Constituent Standard be established for dimethyl sulfone active constituent:

| Constituent | Specification | Level |
|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Dimethyl sulfone | Dimethyl sulfone | Not less than 975 g/kg |

Other compounds of toxicological significance are not expected to occur in dimethyl sulfone as a result of the raw materials and the synthetic route used.

Dimethyl sulfone is an organic sulfur compound belonging to a class of chemicals known as sulfones. It occurs naturally in some primitive plants and is present in small amounts in many food and beverages. It has close chemical relationship to dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), which differs only in the oxidation state of the sulphur atom. Dimethyl sulfone is the primary metabolite of DMSO in humans.

The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of dimethyl sulfone would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

Written submissions on the APVMA's proposal to grant approval for dimethyl sulfone should be addressed in writing to:

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