

ALKALINE COPPER QUATERNARY-TREATED TIMBER

GENERAL

Alkaline copper quaternary (ACQ) treatment protects timber from decay, borer and termite attack.

Under some circumstances exposure to ACQ-treated timber may be hazardous and precautions should be taken both when handling ACQ-treated timber and in determining where to use or dispose of the material.

Timber treated with ACQ is generally identifiable by its green-brown appearance, but weathering, timber species and formulation differences will sometimes make the identification difficult.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Use

ACQ-treated timber should NOT be used in the following situations or applications:

- ☒ Where it will be in direct contact with foodstuffs (e.g., storage bins, crates, beehives, silos, etc.).
- ☒ Counter tops, cutting boards or food preparation surfaces.
- ☒ Where it will be in direct contact with drinking water (e.g., tanks, troughs, etc.).

Handling

The following precautions should be taken when handling ACQ-treated timber:

- ☒ Avoid handling or sawing freshly treated timber.
- ☒ Avoid prolonged or frequent inhalation of sawdust. A dust mask in accordance with AS 1716 should be used if airborne sawdust is being generated.
- ☒ Keep work areas clean and maintain airborne dust levels below maximum recommended exposure standards.
- ☒ Wear protective gloves (see AS 2161.1, AS 2161.2, AS 2161.10.1, AS 2161.10.2 and AS 2161.10.3).
- ☒ Clean up and dispose of all sawdust and construction debris after completion of all construction work.
- ☒ Wear eye protection when using power saws or machining.
- ☒ Wash hands and face after working with ACQ-treated timber and before eating, drinking or smoking.

GUIDE TO THE SAFE USE OF PRESERVATIVE-TREATED TIMBER

CONSUMER SAFETY INFORMATION SHEET

Supplement 2 to AS 5605—2007



Disposal	☒ Small quantities of ACQ-treated timber offcuts, waste pieces and shavings may be disposed of by ordinary waste collection or burial. ☒ The disposal of large amounts of ACQ-treated timber waste may require special approval from local authorities. ☒ ACQ-treated timber offcuts and waste shall not be burned in open fires, stoves, fireplaces, or any confined spaces. (They may be burned in plants specifically approved for that purpose.) ☒ ACQ-treated timber offcuts and wastes are not recommended for mulch and animal bedding.
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