Fumigation Information for **Property Owners**



What is the California Aeration Plan (CAP)?

Background

The California Aeration Plan (CAP) is a superior aeration process developed through extensive research and testing. The plan was approved by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and is required for all structural fumigations.

What's Different

Example of duct



Example of fresh air intake inlets



Photos courtesy of Cardinal Professional Products

CAP aerates the structure while the tarpaulins remain on the structure. Strategic placement of fans inside the structure draws fresh air through inlets placed in the tarpaulins and aerates Vikane® gas fumigant and the warning agent (chloropicrin) through ducting. Tarpaulins will stay on the fumigated structure for the duration of the aeration process. Final clearance testing of the structure to certify reentry occur when the tarpaulins are removed from the structure.

- Day 1 Install tarpaulins, including inlets and ducts; release fumigant
- Day 2 Aeration with tarpaulins in place (12 hour minimum time for aeration)
- Day 3 Remove tarpaulins, test and certify for reentry

Some windows must be open during the fumigation and aeration process. The open windows serve two purposes:

- First, the open windows aid in eliminating all the drywood termites, or other targeted
 pests, by quickly distributing the fumigant to all areas under the tarpaulins. This
 helps insure the drywood termites, which infest wooden objects on the outside of the
 structure such as window frames, rafter ends, and fascia boards, are eliminated.
- Second, the open windows aid in the aeration process to efficiently circulate fresh air in the fumigated space when inlets and ducts are opened.

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Let's Talk CAP



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Let's Talk: California Aeration Plan (CAP)

Background

California fumigators have used the Tarpaulin Removal Aeration Plan (TRAP) to initiate aeration for approximately 20 years. The need for TRAP was based on California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) concern for worker exposure. TRAP was developed to meet a 5 part per million (ppm) clearance standard.

The clearance standard for sulfuryl fluoride (Vikane® gas fumigant) changed to 1 ppm in 2006. DPR became concerned that TRAP would not protect workers sufficiently during the tarpaulin removal phase of fumigation. Dow AgroSciences, along with California fumigators, conducted research to develop an aeration plan that would meet DPR criteria while minimizing impact to current industry practices. CAP (California Aeration Plan) is the result of that research effort.

What's Different

CAP aerates the structure while the tarpaulins are in place. Strategic placement of fans inside the structure intake fresh air through inlets placed in the tarpaulins and exhaust sulfuryl fluoride and chloropicrin through ducting. The ducting acts like a chimney to efficiently ventilate the fumigant upwards and away from nearby people and adjacent properties. Tarpaulins will stay on the fumigated structure for the duration of the aeration process. Clearance of the structure will occur when the tarpaulins are removed from the structure.

- Day 1 Install tarpaulins, including inlets and ducts; release fumigant
- Day 2 Aeration with tarpaulins in place (12 hour minimum)
- Day 3 Remove tarpaulins, certify for reentry, potential restoration of natural gas service
- Day 4 Restore natural gas service for other identified properties such as vacant structures

Substantially more fumigation equipment is required for CAP implementation. Fumigators must use additional tarpaulins, clamps, snakes, fans, specialized aeration equipment and clearance devices to meet CAP requirements.

Figure a. Example of duct



Figure b. Example of fresh air intake inlet



Photos courtesy of Cardinal Professional Products

Let's Talk CAP, continued

Communication is Critical!

The gas company is an important part of this process. They may not be able to restore gas to every fumigated property on Day 3. Vacant homes and extended vacations are opportunities for Day 4 gas restoration. Can this property have gas restored on Day 4? _____Yes No Buildings with limited availability of windows, such as commercial concrete tilt-up construction, present potential aeration challenges. Specialized equipment is needed at the job site to facilitate air exchange. Does this property have few or no operable windows and/or doors? Yes No Will the property's construction reduce opportunity for air movement? ____Yes No Structures that may require additional fans to facilitate aeration include those with exceptionally cluttered interiors which may hold chloropicrin or with highly partitioned interiors (e.g. many rooms). Is this property exceptionally cluttered and/or heavily partitioned? ____No Ducts to exhaust fumigant will be placed with consideration to sensitive areas, such as zero-lot lines or neighbors with special circumstances (e.g. schools, daycare centers, etc.). Does this property have a zero-lot line or neighbors with special circumstances (e.g. schools, daycare centers, etc.)? Yes Electricity is required in order to run the aeration fan for a minimum of 12 hours. Does this property have electricity available?

Inspectors and fumigators need to establish and maintain frequent communication regarding proposed and scheduled fumigations.

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No

