

CAS No. 959-98-8; 33213-65-9

Full Name: 6,7,8,9,10,10-Hexachloro-1,5,5a,6,9,9a-hexahydro-

6,9-methano-2,4,3-benzodioxathiepin-3oxide

Trade Name: Thiodan®; Thionex; Endosan; Farmoz; Callisulfan

Uses: Endosulfan is an insecticide which has been used for over 50 years to effectively control several pests, e.g. chewing, sucking and boring insects, including aphids, thrips, beetles, foliar feeding caterpillars, mites, borers, cutworms, bollworms, bugs, white flies, leafhoppers, snails in rice paddies, and tsetse flies.

Endosulfan is used on a very wide range of crops. Major crops to which it is applied include soy, cotton, rice, and tea. Other crops include vegetables, fruits, nuts, berries, grapes, cereals, pulses, corn, oilseeds, potatoes, coffee, mushrooms, olives, hops, sorghum, tobacco, and cacao. It is used on ornamentals and forest trees, and has been used in the past as an industrial and domestic wood preservative, and for controlling earthworms in turf.

Stockholm Convention: Endosulfan is listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention with specific exemptions for production and use on crop-pest complexes listed in part VI of that annex (decision SC-5/3).

Hazards and risks to human health and the environment: Endosulfan is persistent in the atmosphere, sediments and water. Endosulfan bioaccumulates and has the potential for long-range transport. It has been detected in air, sediments, water and in living organisms in remote areas, such as the Arctic, that are distant from areas of intensive use.

Endosulfan is toxic to humans and has been shown to have adverse effects on a wide range of aquatic and terrestrial organisms. Exposure to endosulfan has been linked to congenital physical disorders, mental retardations and deaths in farm workers and villagers in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Endosulfan sulfate shows toxicity similar to that of endosulfan.

Alpha-endosulfan

Beta-endosulfan

Reference

- 1. Risk profile on endosulfan. Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee 2009: UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10/Add.2
- 2. Risk management evaluation on endosulfan. Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee 2010; UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/13/Add.1







Website: www.pops.int