

Proposed Groundwater Standards

Wis. Admin. Code NR 140
Cycle 11



Metalaxyl

How is it used in Wisconsin?

Metalaxyl is a systemic fungicide used for disease control and as a seed treatment in various vegetables, fruits, hops, corn, soybeans, ornamentals, and grasses. It was first registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1979.

What are some products that contain this substance?

Metalaxyl is registered in Wisconsin for use in 130 products. Some common agricultural products include Ridomil, Cruiser Maxx, and Vibrance.

Who manufactures this substance?

Syngenta is the primary registrant, but also Loveland, Bayer, Albaugh, UPL NA Inc, BASF, Vive Crop Protection, Atticus, Control Solutions, NuFarm, MacDermid, Valent, Sharda, and Prime Source.

Why has this substance been recommended for establishment of groundwater standards?

There is currently no standard for metalaxyl in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has tested for it since 2015. As of November 2021 metalaxyl was detected in:

- 87 of 1,467 private well samples, and
- 177 out of 672 field edge monitoring well samples.

A standard will help homeowners and state agencies make decisions about future water use and potential public health concerns.

What are the proposed standards?

- Enforcement standard: 800 µg/L (micrograms per liter)
- Preventive action limit standard: 160 µg/L

Has this substance been detected above the proposed groundwater standards?

No. Since 2015 it has not been detected above the proposed enforcement standard or preventive action limit in any samples collected by DATCP. The highest concentration of metalaxyl detected in a private well sample collected by DATCP was 1.52 µg/L. It was detected at concentrations between 0.0505 and 5.19 µg/L in 177 field edge monitoring well samples collected by DATCP.

Where can I find more information?

- Health-based standards:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/gws.htm>
- NR 140 rule process:
<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Groundwater/NR140.html>

Who do I contact for questions?

DATCP Groundwater Specialist
(608) 224-4503
datcpgw@wisconsin.gov

This fact sheet provides general information for this pesticide ingredient. A groundwater quality standard has been proposed for this substance in accordance with state law (Wis. Stat. § 160).

