

Proposed Groundwater Standards

Wis. Admin. Code NR 140
Cycle 11



Saflufenacil

How is it used in Wisconsin?

Saflufenacil is a Group 14 protoporphyrinogen oxidase (PPO) inhibitor, also known as a cell membrane disruptor, herbicide primarily used to control grass and broadleaf weeds, as a pre-plant or pre-emergence application in corn, sorghum, soybean, small grains, and tree/nut/vine crops. It was first registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2009.

What are some products that contain this substance?

Saflufenacil is registered in Wisconsin for use in seven products such as Kixor Herbicide.

Who manufactures this substance?

Saflufenacil is manufactured by BASF.

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

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

- 9 of 1,469 private well samples, and
- 10 out of 659 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: 460 µg/L (micrograms per liter)
- Preventive action limit standard: 46 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 fomesafen detected in a private well sample collected by DATCP was 0.425 µg/L. It was detected at concentrations of between 0.0519 and 0.203 µg/L in 10 field edge monitoring well samples.

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).

