



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

FEB - 9 2011

OFFICE OF
COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Reply To: OCE-084

NOTICE OF ADVISEMENT
PURCHASE OF A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS PESTICIDE

Dear FastPestControl.com Customer:

This is a formal notice from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that you may have purchased a dangerous and illegal pesticide from an online company called FastPestControl.com. EPA has learned that this company has sold an illegal product called Fast Ant Bait. This product contained a chemical known as Mirex, which could make you sick.

EPA became aware of the illegal product after the Washington State Department of Health reported that a woman became ill after using it in her home. An EPA investigation revealed that this product contained Mirex, an insecticide whose EPA registration has been cancelled since 1978. For more information on Mirex and the symptoms it may cause, please visit the Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Register (ATSDR) website at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=642&tid=118 to obtain an ATSDR Fact Sheet or call the ATSDR Information Center at 1-888-422-8737. You may also call the National Pesticide Inform Center (NPIC) at 1-800-858-7378 for information.

EPA recommends the following:

If you purchased Fast Ant Bait, we strongly urge you NOT to use the product. As you may have noted, the directions and precautions on the label were written entirely in Chinese and even though FastPestControl.com provided a small paper containing instructions and precautions in English, these are very limited and do not meet the labeling and safety standards required by the EPA. We encourage you to dispose of the product through your local hazardous waste collection program. To find the time and location of the next Household Hazardous Waste collection event in your area, call your local environmental, health, or solid waste agency.

If you used the product, we recommend that you avoid the area where you applied the product or, if you can't avoid the area, carefully clean it up. Prior to cleaning, you should put on personal protective equipment like chemical resistant gloves, eye protection, and a particulate filtering respirator number N95. Care should be taken to prevent the product from spreading or contaminating other items or polluting surface and ground water by using the most suitable material available, such as damp earth, sand, or sawdust. Absorb spilled or used product by placing the damp earth, sand or sawdust on top of it, sweeping it up, and placing it in a closeable container for transfer to a safe place for disposal. Please call your local environmental, health, or solid waste agency for disposal options.

If you believe you were harmed by the pesticide, we recommend that you see a doctor and bring the ATSDR Fact Sheet referenced in this letter with you.

EPA has also learned that FastPestControl.com sells another illegal product called Antimos Mosquito Repellent. This product is not registered with EPA and we cannot assure its safety. We encourage you to dispose of this illegal product rather than risk the potential health effects that may result from its use.

In the future, please make sure you only purchase EPA Registered products by asking the seller to provide the product's specific EPA Registration Number. It is represented on pesticide labels as "EPA Reg. No. followed by two or three sets of numbers." To determine if the product is *currently registered* in the United States, type this number into the National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPRIS) website at <http://ppis.ceris.purdue.edu/#> or contact your local EPA Regional Office for assistance.

We appreciate your attention in this important matter. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Chad Schulze of my staff by phone at (206) 553-0505 or by e-mail at schulze.chad@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Downey, Manager
Pesticides and Toxics Unit

cc: Barbara Morrissey
Washington State Department of Health

Scott Wright
Agency for Toxics Substances Disease Register

Richard Kauffman
Agency for Toxics Substances Disease Register