



# Conserve<sup>TM</sup> Plus

## Frequently Asked Questions

### GRAIN PROTECTOR

#### Why use a grain protectant or fumigant?

The Australian domestic and export standard for delivery of grain commodities is 'nil live stored grain insects within the sampling method employed'. Grain protectants and fumigants, when applied correctly, are effective tools which ensure that this standard is met. Insect-free grain not only assists meeting delivery standards, but also ensures that grain quality during the storage period is maintained.

#### What are grain protectants?

Grain protectants are insecticides applied to insect-free cereal grains as they are augered into grain storages. Grain protectants may remain effective for up to nine months after application, controlling insects as they hatch from eggs within storage facilities as well as those migrating into the storage.

#### What is the difference between a grain protectant and a fumigant?

Grain protectants are prophylactic treatments applied to cereal commodities before insects are detected. They have the benefit of managing insects over a long period – up to nine months, and this ensures grain quality is maintained along with ensuring nil live insects are detectable when out-turning.

Fumigants control existing insects and have no residual effect. Growers generally use fumigants after insects have been detected within storages.

#### What is Conserve Plus?

Conserve Plus is a new grain protectant; offering improved flexibility and robust control of stored grain pests in cereal commodities. It contains 100 g/L spinosad and 100 g/L s-methoprene.

#### How many tonnes does a Conserve Plus treat?

Conserve Plus is available in a 500 mL pack which will treat 50 T of grain.

It is also available in a 5 L pack which will treat 500 T of grain.

#### Can I use Conserve Plus to treat grain that is already infested with stored grain insects?

No, Conserve Plus is a protectant and should not be used for disinfesting grain.

A fumigant used in a sealable - gas tight storage is the only option for treating grain which is already infested.

#### Can Conserve Plus be applied to any cereal commodity?

Conserve Plus is approved for use on all cereal commodities – including maize, malting barley and rice. It is important to be aware that grain marketers have the right to put a Pesticide Residue Free condition (PRF) on any commodity. A PRF condition precludes any grain protectant from being applied to that commodity. Typically durum wheat is PRF as it is often sold into European markets which have low maximum residue limits (MRLs) for grain protectant compounds. Dow AgroSciences recommends that you check with your grain marketer to confirm if grain protectants are accepted.

#### Can I use Conserve Plus to protect my canola or pulses?

No, oilseeds and pulses (and the processed fractions of these commodities) must not be treated with Conserve Plus.

#### Does Conserve Plus control all key insects commonly found in grain storages?

Conserve Plus is registered to control the four key stored grain pests, but does not control grain weevils. As rice weevil is common across southern and eastern Australian grain storages, Dow AgroSciences recommends that all applications have a partner organophosphate (OP) added. Conserve Plus is widely compatible to mix with OP's such as Reldan Grain Protector or Sumithion®1000 (fenitrothion), both of which control grain weevils.

The key advantage to using Conserve Plus is that spinosad is highly active on lesser grain borer (*Rhyzopertha dominica*), a key stored grain insect pest resistant to most current grain protectants.



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#### What is spinosad?

Spinosad is an insecticide derived from the metabolites of the fermentation of the bacterium *Saccharopolyspora spinosa*. The bacterium responsible for the fermentation was discovered in the early 1980s and has undergone intensive strain selection so the quality of the product is highly consistent and efficacy is assured.

#### Are spinosad residues accepted by Australia's cereal grains export markets?

Spinosad MRLs for cereal grains have been established in EU, Japan, USA, Taiwan and all countries that accept the residue limits established by the International Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex).

In Australia, MRLs are set by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2013C00902>). Australian MRLs may differ from those established by foreign countries and the International Codex Alimentarius Commission. Therefore, grain exporters must be aware of the MRLs of importing countries and which countries accept Codex MRLs.

Information on international MRLs may be accessed directly from foreign government websites or the National Residue survey (NRS) grains database at: <https://www.edaff.gov.au/NRSMRLExternal/Public/Disclaimer.aspx>.

It is the responsibility of the user to confirm the latest MRL and import tolerances in all markets before export of treated commodities.

#### Does Conserve Plus provide residual control of stored grain insect pests?

Yes, Conserve Plus will effectively control insects in stored cereal grain for up to 9 months. The cool, dark conditions typically encountered in grain silos are ideal for slowing the natural decay of the product, maximising the residual activity.

#### Does Conserve Plus have a withholding period (WHP)?

There is a nil WHP for grain treated with Conserve Plus intended for human and/ or animal consumption. However, grain should not be moved for 24 hours after it has been treated. As Conserve Plus requires a mixing partner to control grain weevils, an OP mixing partner will always be required. It is important to check the WHP of the mixing partner at the rate applied.

#### How long can Conserve Plus stay mixed up in the tank?

Once mixed, the solution MUST be used within 48 hrs. If the solution has been left for any period of time, always agitate thoroughly prior to use to ensure that it is re-suspended and evenly dispersed.

#### How do I apply Conserve Plus?

Conserve Plus should be applied as a nozzle fan spray through equipment calibrated to deliver 1 L of solution per tonne of grain. This is applied as a directed spray onto the grain flow as the grain is being augered up into the storage. It is important to ensure thorough coverage and incorporation of the product as the grain is transported into storage.

Avoid use of tubeveyors/elevators to treat grain into storage due to coverage concerns.

#### How many times can I apply Conserve Plus?

Any consignment or parcel of grain must only be treated ONCE with a Conserve product (Conserve On-Farm or Conserve Plus). Dow AgroSciences requires growers to complete a Commodity Vendor Declaration for each treated parcel of grain, and to provide this information for every grain transaction or delivery. This practice is crucial to avoid exceeding established grain MRLs.



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#### Can I apply Conserve Plus as a silo hygiene wash-down before storing grain?

No, there is no approval for this use. Dow AgroSciences recommends Reldan<sup>TM</sup> pluS in storages where it is approved by commodity type. Integrate the use of diamotaceous earth (e.g. Dryacide<sup>®</sup>) as a structural treatment with focus on hard to clean areas.

#### Do I need to decontaminate application and elevation equipment after using Conserve Plus?

If you anticipate moving, elevating, or treating other commodities (such as canola, pulses or PRF cereal grains) after using Conserve Plus, a wash down of the equipment used is advised to avoid cross-contamination. Oilseeds and their processed fractions can absorb minute traces of pesticides which could lead to detection and a market trade issue.

#### What do I use to decontaminate my equipment with?

On completion, wash out spraying equipment, mixing and measuring utensils with water and detergent.

#### How do I buy Conserve Plus?

Conserve Plus is only available for purchase through accredited distributors. As a prospective purchaser, the product must be only used to treat grain which has been grown on the farm where it will be stored. You must also present your National Grower Register (NGR) card to the accredited distributor before you can purchase the product. You must read and agree to the conditions of use outlined in a one page End User Declaration (EUD), your details are recorded and you sign and take a copy of it.

#### What if I do not have an NGR number?

Call the National Grower Registry on free call ph. 1800 556 630 or go to [www.NGR.com.au](http://www.NGR.com.au). Registration for an NGR number is free.

Note: During peaks periods, delays with issuing of cards may be experienced.

#### What does the stewardship program involve?

The Conserve Plus stewardship program is designed to minimise the risk of a double application of a Conserve product to any consignment of grain. The stewardship program raises awareness of the persistence of Conserve Plus, and that a double application of the product may result in grain MRLs being exceeded and potentially cause trade issues.

As part of the stewardship program, only end-users who can provide an NGR number will be able to purchase Conserve Plus. Prospective purchasers must also sign an EUD which will be filed in a Dow AgroSciences-managed database. This provides the APVMA with a traceability system.

#### What do I do when I sell treated grain?

All grain that has been treated with Conserve Plus must be accompanied – at sale - by a Commodity Vendor Declaration (CVD). This alerts future owners along the supply chain to the fact that Conserve Plus has been used, so they can avoid further applications of a spinosad product. Grain Trade Australian (GTA) CVD, is the industry standard CVD used. Download online or ask for a copy when purchasing at your retailer.





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Product Name	Conserve Plus Grain Protector
Active ingredients	Spinosad + S-methoprene
Uses	All cereal grains, including maize, malting barley and rice. Check the organophosphate (OP) partner label, as to any restrictions of use on particular commodities that may apply. Not to be used on pesticide residue free (PRF) grain, oilseeds or pulses.
Pack size	500 mL pack to treat 50 T grain 5 L pack to treat 500 T grain
Application rate	Apply 500 mL in 50 L water
Pests controlled	Lesser grain borer Flat grain beetle Rust-red flour beetle Saw-toothed grain beetle  Conserve Plus does not control grain weevils. As rice weevil is a common pest across southern and eastern Australian grain storages, Dow AgroSciences recommends that all applications have a partner organophosphate (OP) added. Conserve Plus is widely compatible to mix with OP's such as Reldan <sup>TM</sup> Grain Protector or Sumithion <sup>®</sup> 1000 (fenitrothion), both of which control grain weevils.
Withholding period	Nil when used as directed. Do not move treated grain within 24 hours after treatment. Check OP partner as to restrictions per use rate that apply.

**For more information please call 1800 700 096  
or visit [www.conserveonfarm.com.au](http://www.conserveonfarm.com.au)**