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S.A.R.M.

GOPHER POISON R.T.U.

**Strychnine Rodenticide Bait (Ready-To-Use) (Pellets)
for the control of Northern Pocket Gophers and Ground Squirrels**

DANGER POISON

RESTRICTED

READ THE LABEL BEFORE USING STORE PRODUCT UNDER LOCK AND KEY

GUARANTEE: STRYCHNINE... 0.40%

REGISTRATION NO. 23236

PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS ACT

NET CONTENTS 2.5 KILOGRAMS

Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities

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NOTICE TO USER: This pest control product is to be used only in accordance with the directions on the label. It is an offence under the Pest Control Product Act to use this product in a way that is inconsistent with the directions on the label. The user assumes the risk to persons or property that arises from any such use of this product.

NATURE OF RESTRICTIONS: For sale only to pest control operators, farmers and persons authorized in government-approved pest control programs where the vendor maintains a record of sales including the name, address and signature of the purchaser along with the quantity of product purchased.

RESTRICTED USES: For control of Northern pocket gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*), Richardsons Columbian, Franklin and Thirteen-lined ground squirrels (*Spermophilus richardsonii*, *S. columbianus*, *S. franklinii*, and *S. tridecemlineatus*, respectively).

DIRECTIONS FOR USE: To achieve the most effective control, baiting should be carried out before the birth of the young in mid-April and before alternative green vegetation is available, as a good quality bait may be more attractive at this time. Baiting after this time may result in increased costs (i.e., labour and material) since the availability of alternative foods may reduce the consumption of the bait and affect the levels of control. Three measures are acceptable for dispensing strychnine bait to control the Northern Pocket gopher, and two control measures are acceptable to control Richardsons, Columbian, Franklin or Thirteen-lined ground squirrels. Strychnine baits may be placed by hand, or used in probes, burrow builders or tamper resistant bait stations as indicated below. Follow the instructions below and those on the dispensing equipment to obtain best control and to reduce risk to non-target organisms. S.A.R.M. Gopher Poison R.T.U. is to be used fresh as mould formation can reduce bait acceptance. For optimum results, use as soon as possible and no later than a week from the date of manufacture indicated on the bait container. It is recommended that this product be kept refrigerated (2 to 4 °C) until the time of purchase. Care must be taken to avoid spilling bait on soil surface. All spilled bait must be collected and disposed of by incineration or burial in a pit no less than 46 cm (approximately 18 inches) deep and then covered to prevent non-target poisonings. Toxic to all forms of life.

DO NOT SCATTER BAIT OUTSIDE BURROW (on soil surface).

NORTHERN POCKET GOPHER CONTROL

1. **HAND PROBES:** This bait is to be used only to control pocket gophers in a mechanical hand probe such as "Gopher Getter". Remove empty container, turn hand probe upside down and screw new bottle of bait up into dispenser. Probe for runway as described on machine's label instructions.

2. **BURROW BUILDERS:** This bait is to be used only with a mechanical *Burrow Builder*. To build a proper burrow the soil must be damp and the Burrow Builder must be scoured. Probe gopher runways with a broomstick or iron bar to determine depth of the gopher runway. Set machine to the same depth. Make artificial runways 7.00 m to 10.00 m apart encompassing the total infested area and then cross the ends. One kg to 2.25 kg of bait will treat one hectare.

3. **HAND PLACEMENT:** Carefully open burrow and place 5-15 g of bait well into the tunnel. Carefully close burrows without covering bait. A repeat treatment may be necessary where burrows have been reopened and are in active use. **TO PROTECT WILDLIFE, DO NOT SCATTER BAIT OUTSIDE BURROW.**

GROUND SQUIRREL CONTROL

HAND PLACEMENT: Place 5-15 g of bait deep in each opened burrow in such a manner that the bait is not visible from the surface. Close the burrow without burying or covering the bait and repeat treatment of any opened burrows after one week.

BAIT STATION: As an additional method of control in an above-ground use. Place bait in a tamper resistant bait station and replenish baits as necessary. Remove and bury any dead animals because they can present a significant poisoning hazard to predatory animals. Do not place bait above ground where it is exposed to non-target species unless it is in a tamper-resistant bait station.

If above-ground bait stations are to be used, they must meet the following criteria:

1. Resistant to destruction or weakening by elements of typical non-catastrophic weather (e.g. snow, rain, extremes of temperature and humidity, direct sunshine, etc.)
2. Capable of being locked or sealed so that children and non-target animals cannot gain access through the opening or procedures used to fill the bait compartment(s).
3. Strong enough to prohibit entry or destruction by dogs and by children under six years of age using their hands, their feet, or objects commonly found in the use environment (e.g. sticks, stones, broken glass, etc.- stations stronger than "tamper-resistant" are needed in areas frequented by hooved livestock, raccoons, bears, other potentially destructive animals, or in areas prone to vandalism).
4. Equipped with rodent entrances which a) readily allow target animals access to baits, b) deny such access to animals larger than adults of the target species, and c) discourage entry by birds. Means for achieving these ends might include use of baffles, mazes, or small entrances.
5. Be anchored securely to contain contents, or equipped with a mechanism which virtually prevents bait from being shaken out of the station after it has been moved.
6. Equipped with internal structures for containing baits and minimizing spillage and tracking of bait outside of the station or into readily accessible parts of the station.
7. Made of a design and color that is not especially attractive to children, and
8. Capable of displaying precautionary statements in a prominent location.

MONITORING: All areas where the bait has been used must be monitored on a regular basis for dead animals. In the case of ground squirrels, monitoring must be done on a daily basis for the first week and on a weekly basis for several weeks thereafter. All carcasses must be disposed of by incineration or burial in a pit no less than 46 cm (approximately 18 inches) deep to prevent scavengers from unearthing carcasses.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRECAUTIONS: This product is toxic to wildlife. Treated grain exposed on soil surface and poisoned carcasses may be hazardous to birds and other wildlife. All treated grain and poisoned carcasses exposed on soil surface must be collected and disposed of by incineration or burial in a pit no less than 46 cm (approximately 18 inches) deep and then covered to prevent non-target poisonings. Toxic to all forms of life. Species at risk, including the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and the swift fox (*Vulpes velox*), are known to frequent habitat occupied by ground squirrels. **DO NOT APPLY THIS PRODUCT IF THESE OR OTHER SPECIES AT RISK THAT MAY FEED ON STRYCHNINE BAIT OR GROUND SQUIRRELS ARE PRESENT IN YOUR AREA.** For information on species at risk in your area, contact your local provincial or federal wildlife officials.

PRECAUTIONS: KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

Do not contaminate feed and foodstuffs. This product should be stored away from children under lock and key. Do not apply this product in a way that will contact workers, other persons, pets or domestic animals. Wear chemical-resistant gloves, a dust mask, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt during mixing/loading, application, clean-up and other handling activities. May be fatal if swallowed. Wash the outside of gloves before removal and wash hands thoroughly after handling and before eating, drinking or smoking. Do not contaminate feed and foodstuffs or any water supply. Baits should be placed in areas OUT OF REACH OF children, pets, wildlife and domestic animals or in tamper-resistant bait boxes or stronger than tamper-resistant boxes as the situation requires (refer to Point 3 under "Bait Station"). This product is toxic to wildlife. Treated grain exposed on soil surface may be hazardous to birds and other wildlife. All carcasses must be disposed of by burial in a pit no less than 46 cm (approx. 18 inches) deep and then covered to prevent scavengers from unearthing carcasses. Toxic to all forms of life.

FIRST AID:

IF SWALLOWED: Obtain medical attention immediately. Consult a poison control centre for detailed information on treatment for strychnine poisoning. Do not induce vomiting unless told to do so by a poison control centre or doctor. Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

IF IN EYES: Hold eye open and immediately flush with large amounts of water for 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present, after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing eye. Call a poison control centre or doctor for treatment advice.

IF ON SKIN OR CLOTHING: Take off contaminated clothing. Wash exposed area of skin with soap and water. Take container, label or product name and Pest Control Product Registration Number with you when seeking medical attention.

TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION:

Central nervous system stimulant. Convulsions may occur within 5 to 10 minutes of ingestion. If the person is fully conscious and not convulsing a few moments after the ingestion, immediate ingestion of activated charcoal has been proven beneficial. Keep the patient in a warm, dark room with minimal sensory stimulation. Postpone gastric lavage until the patient is fully premedicated to control further convulsions or seizures. Artificial respiration may become necessary. Keep patient under continual observation until convulsions and reflex irritability have been suppressed and gastric lavage can be performed safely.

STORAGE OF UNUSED BAIT: The unused bait should be stored in its original container and for optimal results used as soon as possible and no later than 1 week after manufacture.

DISPOSAL: Dispose of the container in accordance with provincial requirements. For more information on the disposal of unused product, contact the provincial regulatory agency or the manufacturer.

Carcasses Disposal (Target and Non-target Species): All carcasses must be disposed of by incineration or burial in a pit no less than 46 cm (approximately 18 inches) deep and then covered to prevent scavengers from unearthing carcasses.

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