

Protecta AB

- blue-stain protection -



INNOVATIVE
WOOD
PROTECTION





PROTECTA AB

Protecta AB is applied to wood products with high moisture content to protect the moist timber against attack from sapstain and mould fungi

As soon as trees are felled, or logs sawn into boards, the exposed wood surfaces become susceptible to attack by mould and sapstain fungi.

The bluestain and mould fungi generally do not influence the mechanical properties of the wood, but they can discolour the wood and thereby reduce the marketability of the wood in applications where a bright white appearance is important.

The only permanent way to protect moist wood from attack by sapstain and mould fungi is to season the wood until the moisture content has reached a level that will not support sapstain and mould growth.

However, when there is a delay between sawing and seasoning or if the wood is seasoned at temperatures below 40 - 45 degrees C, it is important to protect the moist wood from attack by sapstain and mould fungi throughout seasoning, transport and storage.



10 good reasons to choose PROTECTA AB

Proven performance – treated wood has been extensively tested in international field trials under different climatic conditions

Contains highly effective biodegradable fungicides that are combined to give outstanding cost effective performance

Highly effective in protecting freshly felled wood from attack by sapstain and mould fungi throughout seasoning, storage and transport

Supplied as an easy to use concentrate that mixes readily with water to produce an exceptionally stable treatment solution

Low human toxicity and free from skin irritating ingredients

Water-soluble, odourless and non-flammable

Applied by simple dipping or spraying technology

Maintains the natural colour and appearance of the wood

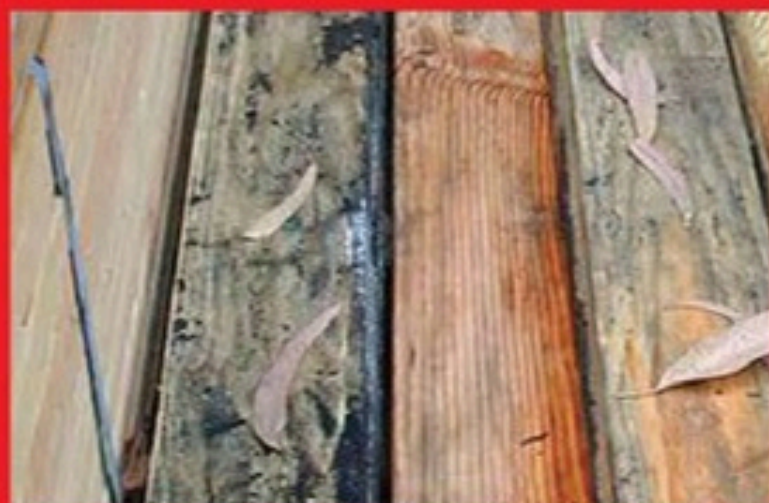
Formulated to comply with the most stringent international health and safety legislation

Treated wood is acceptable throughout international markets





PROTECTA AB



Protecta AB is supplied as a concentrate that mixes readily with water to produce an exceptionally stable treatment solution

Chemical properties

Protecta AB is a liquid concentrate created to balance optimum fungicidal effectiveness with low toxicity to the environment and human health.

The product is diluted with water before use. It is readily mixed in water forming a true solution and stays in solution without agitation or circulation.

Active ingredients are propiconazole, 3-iodo-2-propynyl butylcarbamate (IPBC), and benzalkonium-chloride (BAC). Together they provide excellent protection against a broad spectrum of sapstain and mould-fungi and quickly break down into harmless materials when they come into contact with the environment.

Unlike many other anti-sapstain products, Protecta AB is free from organic solvents (VOCs).

The diluted solutions of Protecta AB are clear and extremely stable due to the surfactant system used, and it treats more uniformly than the suspensions used in many other sapstain systems.

The treatment solution is slightly corrosive to mild steel. Equipment in contact with the treatment solution should therefore be made from stainless steel or coated with an appropriate coating.

Scope of use

Protecta AB is applied to wood products with high moisture content including freshly felled logs and sawn timber to protect the moist timber from attack by sapstain and mould fungi.

By protecting the moist wood against attack by bluestain and mould fungi, it is possible to maintain the quality and value of the wood in applications where a bright white appearance is important.

However, the protection provided by Protecta AB is temporary only. For long-term protection, it is necessary to season the timber until the moisture content of the timber has reached a level that will not support sapstain and mould growth.

The protection period provided by Protecta AB depends on a number of factors such as climate, chemical loadings, and handling practices, but Protecta AB will normally protect the timber from mould and sapstain attack for up to 2 – 4 months if applied at the correct dosage levels immediately after sawing.



PROTECTA AB

Protecta AB is applied to the surfaces of the freshly sawn timber by dipping or spraying the surfaces with a diluted solution of Protecta AB

Treatment methods

Protecta AB is applied to the surface of freshly sawn timber by one of the following methods:

a) Dipping / Spraying

The normal method for applying Protecta AB is by dipping or spray methods. To provide effective protection it is important that all surfaces are thoroughly wetted with Protecta AB. Dipping with each piece remaining immersed for minimum 1 minute is ideal, since by this method complete coverage and adequate uptake are assured.

However, it is also possible to dip treat timber in pack form, but longer immersion times are required. The exact treatment cycle will depend on the dimensions and sticking arrangement. Large dimension timber stickered every layer will require dip times of 5 - 10 minutes, while thin timber tightly banded and stickered infrequently will require significant longer dip times to ensure that all surfaces are thoroughly wetted.

Dilution levels used for spraying/immersion may vary widely and will depend on application methods, wood species, seasonal changes in exposure conditions, length of protection desired, and wood storage and transport conditions.

- For spray application:

Mix one part of Protecta AB to 15-50 parts of water

- For immersion application:

Mix one part of Protecta AB to 50-300 parts of water

Immersion / dip tanks should always be under cover, protected from rainfall and snow to prevent dilution of the treatment solution during rain, and the tanks should be situated on an impervious bunded area that is capable of containing the total volume of fluid held in the tank.

Protecta AB is slightly more corrosive towards mild steel compared to clean water. Mild steel and concrete tanks should therefore ideally be coated with a suitable coating prior to use, especially if the mild steel tanks are new in order to prevent corrosion.

b) Pressure impregnation / dip diffusion with boron

Protecta AB is compatible with most boron formulations used for impregnation of wood. Since boron offers limited protection against moulds and sapstain fungi, it is common to combine the ready-to-use solution of boron with Protecta AB.

- For pressure impregnation application:

Mix one part of Protecta AB to 200 - 500 parts of ready-to-use solution of boron

- For dip diffusion application:

Mix one part of Protecta AB to 25 to 50 parts of ready-to-use solution of boron

NB: Protecta AB is not compatible with Protecta ACQ and Protecta CCA and should never be mixed with these preservatives



Protecta AB

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Protecta AB must be applied to the surfaces of the freshly sawn timber as quickly as possible after the timber is cut and always within 24 hours

DIRECTIONS OF USE

Preparation of wood for treatment

To be effective, it is important that Protecta AB is applied to the freshly sawn timber within 24 hours after sawing. It is also important that the timber is cut from fresh logs only. There is no point in treating wood which is already infected as that will not prevent further fungal growth.

Other factors of importance for an effective treatment include:

- Wood should be free from dirt, sawdust, surface coatings, plastic wrapping, ice and snow before treatment
- DO NOT treat frozen timber
- Timber should ideally be free from all signs of attack by bacteria, sapstain fungi, decay fungi or insects before treatment
- DO NOT excessively tighten any straps around the timber stack. Use plastic straps to avoid iron staining on the wood.
- Use sticker-stacked packs to optimize pack penetration and post-treatment drying

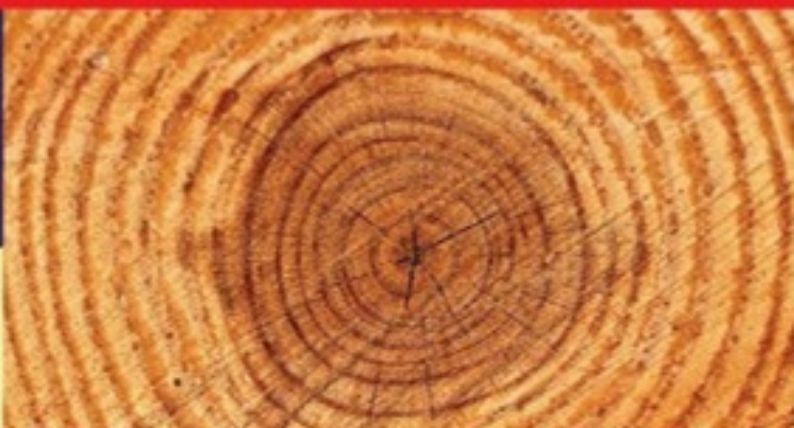
Post-treatment storage

Freshly treated wood should be stored under cover on a designated drip pad until it is touch dry. The time required for the timber surface to dry will depend on weather conditions, species, timber dimensions, pack size and whether the timber is sawn, planed or sanded. Treated packs should, if possible, be tilted on the drip pad to promote preservative drainage and prevent surface ponding.

Fixation

The preservative chemicals in Protecta AB are water-soluble during impregnation, but become fixed on the wood surface in form of insoluble, non-volatile, low toxic compounds. Once the preservative chemicals are fixed in the wood, they are no longer harmful to humans or the environment as long as the usual safety and hygiene standards for preservative treated wood are followed.

Due to the fixation, the preservative chemicals in Protecta AB will only penetrate a few millimeters into the wood. The chemicals will therefore be concentrated on the timber surface where they create a barrier that inhibits sapstain and mould fungi from entering the wood surface.



Protecta AB has no significant effect on the colour, strength and odour of the treated timber.

Timber properties

Appearance

Protecta AB has no significant effect on the colour or odour of the treated wood.

Properties of treated timber

Wood treated with Protecta AB can be handled as normal untreated timber. The strength, corrosion potential, electrical conductivity or the flammability of the treated wood is no different from that of untreated wood.



SAFETY & HANDLING

General safety information

Protecta AB is formulated to comply with the most stringent international health and safety legislation and it quickly breaks down into harmless chemicals when in contact with the soil.

a) Treated timber

Timber treated with Protecta AB is normally completely safe for humans and the environment. However, as with all other biocides, it is advisable to follow the usual safety and hygiene standards for preservative treated wood when handling timber treated with Protecta AB.

b) Impregnation solution

Although the chemicals in Protecta AB are characterized by low toxicity, the chemicals in the concentrated and diluted solution of Protecta AB are still potentially harmful to humans and the environment, if not used correctly. It is therefore important that people handling the impregnation solution is not exposed to the chemicals and that the chemicals are not leaked into the environment.



Handling of impregnation solution

Use wood preservatives safely. Always read the Material Safety Data Sheet, product information and label before using the product.

The chemicals in the concentrated solution of Protecta AB are potentially corrosive towards eyes and skin. It is therefore important always to wear overalls, PVC gloves, and apron and eye protection when handling the concentrate.

Wash splashes from skin or eyes immediately with plenty of water.

Wash hands and exposed skin before eating, drinking or smoking and after work.

Remove heavily contaminated clothing and wash before re-use.

Handling of treated timber

Workers handling the treated wood should wear gloves.

Always wash hands and face after handling chemically treated wood especially before eating, drinking and smoking.

Treated wood should not be used where it comes into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, food, animal feed or beehives.

Wear dust mask & goggles when cutting or sanding treated and untreated wood.

Aqua toxicity

Since some of the components in Protecta AB are toxic to aquatic organisms, it is important that appropriate measures are taken to prevent loss of preservative chemicals to waterways in ecologically sensitive areas.

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