

OZONews

A weekly electronic news service on ozone protection & implementation of the Montreal Protocol compiled by:
UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme, Paris

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1- Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 16-19 October 2001

Source: The Ozone Secretariat @: <http://www.unep.org/ozone/pdf/13mop-10.pdf>

2- British Antarctic Survey (BAS) First BAS Ozone Bulletin for 2001

The 2001 ozone hole reached an area of over 25 million square kilometres at its maximum, but it is now shrinking and filling. At around 18 million square kilometres in size, it is still significantly larger than at this time last year. The hole is offset from the pole, with lowest values, below 150 DU (50% depletion), over Dronning Maud Land and significant depletion extends towards Africa. The winter high ozone belt in the south temperate regions generally surrounds Antarctica, particularly over the Pacific sector...

Full Text and figures @: <http://www.nerc-bas.ac.uk/public/icd/jds/ozone/bulletins/bas0101.htm>

Contact: Jonathan Shanklin @: jdsh@bas.ac.uk

Source: British Antarctic Survey, 07 November 2001

3- Diatomaceous Earth Protects Grain, Safe to Use

Activated DE best for stored grain protection

While some Extension Pesticide Coordinators are providing information about toxic chemicals to control insects, the trend is toward diatomaceous earth... Resistance has developed to organophosphates, pyrethroids and other residual treatments. In addition, a number of insects are resistant to the fumigant phosphine and the fumigant methyl bromide is slowly being phased out... The reasons for using DE are numerous. It is safe for employees and requires no license to apply. As a safety precaution, persons should use a dust mask and goggles the same as in any dusty environment. Application to empty bins can be made by using the grain bin fans or any type of blower. Applicators can stay out of the dust when making applications. Robert Weatherton, seed rice production director at the Beaumont Rice Experiment Station, recently reported on the use of the activated diatomaceous earth product InsectAway at the station:

"During the 199 and 2000 seasons we had absolutely no insect problems in our rice using Insect-Away. In 2001, we still do not have any grain insect problems. The product offered us advantages in control and safety we have not thought possible..."

Full Text @: <http://www.planetrice.net/newspub/story.cfm?id=1221>

Source: The Interactive World of Rice Industry, 03 November 2001

4- Water Fights Back

Water mist is proving a safe alternative in more ways than one, finds David Hambling

For centuries, water was the fire-fighter's best friend. In the modern era though, fires involving electrical equipment or burning liquid demanded a new approach. With small fires, thousands of gallons of water may cause more damage than the flames. This led to the rise of extinguishing systems using gases known as halogenated hydrocarbons or halons. New regulations, however, are set to outlaw halons, and water is making comeback aided by new technology... Halon systems are now being replaced for environmental reasons. Halons have the highest ozone-depleting potential of any gases in common use, and under the Montreal protocol, all halon systems will have to be replaced by the end of 2003. Perhaps the most interesting of the possible replacements is water - not as a stream but broken into tiny droplets to form a mist. This makes it much more effective...

Full Text @: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/story/0,3605,584088,00.html>

Source: The Guardian, 01 November 2001

OzoNews is available on the OzonAction Programme web site @:

<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/compliance/ozonews/main.html>

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