

## **RESIDENTIAL OR HOUSEHOLD SEWER SYSTEMS**

### General Information

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Water hardness, temperature of the water, the type and amount of vegetation to be controlled, and the amount of water flow are to be considered in using Copper Sulfate Crystals to control algae. Begin treatment soon after plant growth has started. If treatment is delayed until a large amount of algae is present, larger quantities of Copper Sulfate Crystals will be required. Algal growth is difficult to control with Copper Sulfate Crystals when water temperatures are low (less than 60°F) or when the water alkalinity is above 50 ppm. Larger quantities of Copper Sulfate Crystals will be required to kill and control algae in water which is flowing than in a body of stagnant water. If possible, curtail the flow of water before treatment and hold dormant for approximately three days after treatment or until the algae have begun to die. When preparing a Copper Sulfate Crystals solution in water, the mixing container should be made of plastic, glass, or a painted, enameled, or copper-lined metal container. It is usually best to treat algae on a sunny day when the heavy mats of filamentous algae are most likely to be floating on the surface where they can be sprayed directly. If there is some doubt about the concentration to apply, it is best to start with the lower concentration given in the Specific Instructions below.

Treatment of algae can result in oxygen loss from decomposition of dead algae. This loss can cause fish suffocation. Therefore, to minimize this hazard, treat no more than one-half of the water area in a single operation and wait at least 14 days between treatments. Begin treatments along the shore and proceed outward in bands to allow fish to move into untreated water. NOTE: If treated water is to be used as a source of potable water, the metallic copper residual must not exceed 1 ppm (4 ppm Copper Sulfate Crystals).

**CALCULATIONS FOR THE AMOUNT OF WATER IMPOUNDED AND FOR THE AMOUNT OF COPPER SULFATE CRYSTALS TO BE USED:** Calculate water volume as follows: (1) Obtain surface area by measuring of regular shaped ponds or mapping of irregular ponds or by reference to previously recorded engineering data or maps. (2) Calculate average depth by sounding in a regular pattern and taking the mean of

these readings or by reference to previously obtained data. (3) Multiply surface area in feet by average depth in feet to obtain cubic feet of water volume. (4) Multiply surface area in acres by average depth in feet to obtain total acre-feet of water volume.

**CALCULATE WEIGHT OF WATER TO BE TREATED AS FOLLOWS:** (1) Multiply volume in cubic feet by 62.44 to obtain total pounds of water, or (2) Multiply volume in acre feet by 2,720,000 to obtain pounds of water.

**CALCULATIONS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENT TO BE ADDED:** To calculate the amount of Copper Sulfate Crystals needed to achieve the recommended concentration, multiply the weight of water by the recommended concentration of Copper Sulfate Crystals. Since recommended concentrations are normally given in parts per million (ppm), it will first be necessary to convert the value in parts per million to a decimal equivalent. For example, 2 ppm is the same as 0.000002 when used in this calculation. Therefore, to calculate the amount of Copper Sulfate Crystals to treat 1 acre-foot of water with 2 ppm Copper Sulfate Crystals (or 0.5 ppm metallic copper), the calculation would be as follows:  $0.000002 \times 2,720,000 = 5.44$  lbs. Copper Sulfate Crystals.

Limitations, Restrictions, and Exceptions

## ROOT CONTROL GENERAL INFORMATION

Plant roots can penetrate through small cracks and poorly sealed joints of sewer lines. If not controlled, these small roots will continue to grow larger in number causing breakage, reduced flow, and eventually, flow stoppage. Copper Sulfate Crystals has been known to be an effective means to control roots in residential and commercial sewers.

## RESIDENTIAL OR HOUSEHOLD SEWER SYSTEMS

When a reduced water flow is first noticed, and root growth is thought to be the cause, treat with Copper Sulfate Crystals. It is important not to wait until a stoppage occurs because some water flow is necessary to move the Copper Sulfate Crystals to the area of root growth. Usually, within 3 to 4 weeks, after roots have accumulated sufficient copper sulfate, the roots will die and begin to decay and water flow should increase. As the roots re-grow, follow-up treatments with copper sulfate will be required. Applications may be made each year in the spring after

plant growth begins, or during late summer or early fall, or any time a reduced water flow, thought to be caused by root growth, occurs.

Apply 2 pounds Copper Sulfate Crystals to household sewers. Add Copper Sulfate Crystals to sewer line by pouring ½ pound increments into the toilet bowl nearest the sewer line and flush, repeat this process until recommended dose has been added, or remove cleanout plug and pour entire recommended quantity directly into the sewer line. Replace the plug and flush the toilet several times. Repeat in 6 or 12 month intervals, if necessary.

Method

[N. A.](#)

Rates

[field\\_rates 0](#)

•

Timings

[Each year in the spring after plant growth begins, or during late summer or early fall, or any time.](#)