

MAQUER CHEMICAL COMPANY



CONTROLLING ALGAE IN IMPOUNDED WATERS:

LAKES, PONDS AND RESERVOIRS

Aquatic plants are an integral part of any aquatic environment. It is desirable not to upset the ecological balance in a body of water; consequently any control measures should be directed to combatting a specific plant problem. Algae growth in water causes many undesirable conditions: loss of beneficial planktonic types may clog nozzles or cause odors and tastes in the water, and filamentous types may clog pumps and nozzles and make swimming, boating or fishing difficult. Small amounts of Copper Sulfate in water can effectively control algae; however, it is important to understand that there is no way of controlling algae that is permanent. On rare occasions a single treatment may last for an entire season, but ordinarily algae must be destroyed several times between early spring and early fall.

FACTORS AFFECTING COPPER SULFATE USAGE.

Many factors influence the amount of copper sulfate required to control algae, but the main factors are (1) the kind and amount of vegetation to be controlled, (2) the temperature of the water, (3) the water hardness, and (4) the amount of water flowing through the body of water.

Algae can be controlled much more easily and effectively if the chemical treatment is made soon after plant growth has started. If treatment is delayed until a large amount of algae is present, much more copper sulfate will be required, complete control will be harder to obtain, and there is more likelihood of poisoning or suffocating fish.

In general, vegetation is harder to control with copper sulfate when water temperatures are low. If ponded waters are frozen over, or ice covered, algae cannot grow. Since copper has a tendency to combine with minerals in the water, the copper sulfate will not be as effective and more will be required. In cold weather, water hardness is also an important factor in determining the amount which is safe for fish.

It is evident that a body of water that has a high level of water hardness, although it will require higher dosages of copper sulfate to kill algae, will not be as hard on water that is soft. If possible, keep the water hardness at a level where treatment is not necessary. At all times, after the treatment has been started, water flow should be reduced.

For best results, it is absolutely necessary to use only the recommended

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CALCULATING THE AMOUNT OF WATER IMPOUNDED

Concentrates of copper sulfate in water are expressed in parts per million by weight (abbreviated ppm). This means that if a copper sulfate concentration of 1 ppm is needed to destroy a certain type of algae, then 1 pound of copper sulfate must be distributed for every million pounds of water in the pond. If a concentration of 1/2 ppm is desired in a pond containing 3 million pounds of water, then the amount of copper sulfate required is $3 \times 1/2$ or 1 1/2 pounds.

From these examples, we see that it is necessary to know the amount of water impounded in order to calculate the amount of copper sulfate to use for obtaining a desired concentration. The weight of water impounded can be readily calculated if the volume of water is known (1 gallon of water weighs 8 1/3 pounds), so the problem is simply a matter of calculating the volume of water in the pond.

The amount of copper sulfate needed to give desired treatment in standing water is generally calculated by multiplying the area in square feet by the average depth in feet to get volume in cubic feet, multiplying the volume by the weight of one cubic foot of water to obtain total weight in pounds, and multiplying the weight by the desired concentration expressed as a decimal fraction.

Calculating water volume involves the following steps:

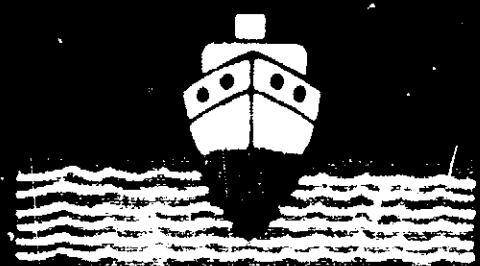
1. Obtain surface area by measuring irregularly shaped ponds, by using irregular grids or by referring to previous recorded measurements.
2. Calculate average depth by sounding in a number of places and taking average of these soundings, or by referring to previous measurements.
3. Multiply surface area in feet by average depth in feet to obtain volume in cubic feet.
4. Multiply volume in cubic feet by average depth in feet to obtain volume in acre feet.

Example: 1. 100 ft x 100 ft = 10,000 sq ft

2. 10,000 sq ft x 10 ft = 100,000 cu ft

3. 100,000 cu ft x 8.33 = 833,000 lbs

COPPER CATHODE POSITIVE



COPERROYD

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

**PURE METALLIC
COPPER**

ANTI-FOULING

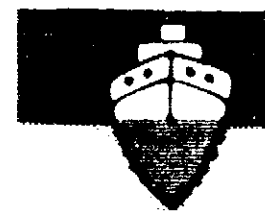
BOAT BOTTOM COATING

CAUTION!

HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED.

FLAMMABLE. VAPOR HARMFUL.

See cautions elsewhere on label.



ONE GALLON