

# ***Coniothyrium minitans* CON/M/91-08 (028836)**

## **Fact Sheet**

### **Summary**

*Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 is a naturally occurring strain of *Coniothyrium* fungi used to treat soil to control the common plant pathogens, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Sclerotinia minor*, which cause white mold, pink rot, and water soft rot. Based on available information, *C. minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 appears to have no adverse effects on humans or the environment.

### **I. Description of the Active Ingredient**

*Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 is a naturally occurring soil microorganism. *C. minitans* attacks certain structures (sclerotia) of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Sclerotinia minor*, two fungi that cause plant diseases. Both growth and germination of *C. minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 are temperature dependent, and its optimum sporulation occurs at 25 to 30E C (77-86E F).

### **II. Use Sites, Target Pests, and Application Methods**

- **Use Sites:** *Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 is approved for treatment of agricultural soil.
- **Target Pests:** *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Sclerotinia minor*, the fungi which produce the plant diseases commonly known as white mold, pink rot, and water soft rot.
- **Application Methods:** The single registered product as of March 2001, Contans7 WG, is diluted in water and applied as a spray to the soil, followed by mechanical mixing into the first one to two inches of the topsoil layer. The product is applied after harvest or 3 to 4 months before the typical onset of disease, so that it can reduce the number of target pests available to later attack the crop. The product is less effective at temperatures above 30 E C.

### **III. Assessing Risks to Human Health**

No harmful health effects to humans are expected from use of *Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08. Appropriate tests found no evidence that the fungus is toxic to humans. No toxicological or pathogenic effects of *C. minitans* in mammals have been reported in available public literature or in the submitted data. In addition, certain biological characteristics of *C. minitans* strain CON/M/91-08, which include its temperature requirements for germination and growth (lower than human body temperature), and its dependence on *Sclerotinia* as a host, are further indications that this microbial pest control agent would not be pathogenic to mammals.

### **IV. Assessing Risks to the Environment**

Available studies show that no adverse environmental effects are expected when products containing *Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08 are used in accordance with label instructions. *Coniothyrium minitans* has not been reported in public literature to infect any organism other than *Sclerotinia* and occasionally several other closely related fungi. In addition, exposure of birds, fish, aquatic invertebrates, and honey bees to Contans7 WG is anticipated to be minimal because the product is incorporated into soil.

## **V. Regulatory Information**

*Coniothyrium minitans* strain CON/M/91-08. was registered (licensed for sale) in March, 2001.

One product, Contans7 WG , was registered at the same time.

## **VI. Registrant Information**

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## **VII. Additional Contact Information**

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