

# Corn Gluten Meal (100137) Fact Sheet

## Summary

As a pesticide active ingredient, corn gluten meal is intended for residential non-food use on lawns to prevent emergence of grassy and broad-leaved weeds. The substance is common in many food/feed products and in dietary supplements for humans and animals. This active ingredient is a protein found in corn kernels. It is not harmful to humans, to other non-target organisms, or to the environment. Furthermore, it provides a safer alternative to toxic chemicals commonly used for weed control on lawns.

### I. Description of the Active Ingredient

- **Active Ingredient Name:** Corn Gluten Meal (Corn Glutens )
- **OPP Chemical Code:** 100137 (CAS # 66071-96-3)

Corn gluten meal is present in corn and in foods that contain corn or processed corn by-products. Corn gluten meal is a non-volatile powder, and in its granular form tends to remain near where it was applied. End use products are intended for use only on established lawns, where the substance prevents normal root development in weed seedlings. The glutens are a class of proteins found in various crops such as corn, wheat, and potatoes. Bread texture is affected by the amount and kind of gluten in the flour used for making the bread.

### II. Use Sites, Target Pests, And Application Methods

- **Use Sites:** Residential lawns and similar turf sites.
- **Target pests:** Various weeds of turf and lawns, including crabgrass, creeping bentgrass, smart weed, dandelions, redroot bigweed, purslane, lambs quarter, foxtail, barnyard grass, and Bermuda grass.
- **Application Methods:** Granular formulation applied by lawn spreader.

### III. Assessing Risks to Human Health

No adverse effects to humans are known or expected from use of corn gluten meal in pesticide products. Corn gluten meal:

1. is eaten regularly by humans and livestock with no known adverse effects,
2. is categorized by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as GRAS (Generally Recognized As Safe for food use),
3. has no known toxic effects when tested in laboratory studies, and 4) does not have a legal maximum amount that can be present in food (i.e., it is exempt from needing a tolerance).

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

No toxic effects have been identified in mammals, birds, or fish. In fact, corn gluten meal is commonly used in feed for cattle, fish, poultry, pets, and other animals. No harmful effects are expected if users follow the application rates and use directions on the label.

#### **V. Regulatory Information**

- **Year active ingredient was initially registered (licensed for sale):**  
September 2002
- **Number of end use products (September 2002):** 1 (WOW Plus)

#### **VI. Registrant Information**

Gardens Alive  
5100 Schenley Place  
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

#### **VII. Additional Contact Information:**

[Ombudsman, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division](#) (7511P)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460