

# Q and A for Producers on 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate

Current as of April 24, 2026

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## **Product Availability and Supply**

### **Q: When will product be available?**

A: An initial shipment of product is expected to arrive late May to early June 2026. Two more shipments are expected over the summer. Approximately 800 cases are expected in the first shipment for Alberta with similar amounts in the following shipments

### **Q: Will supply be limited?**

A: Yes. Initial shipments are limited.

### **Q: How much is in a case?**

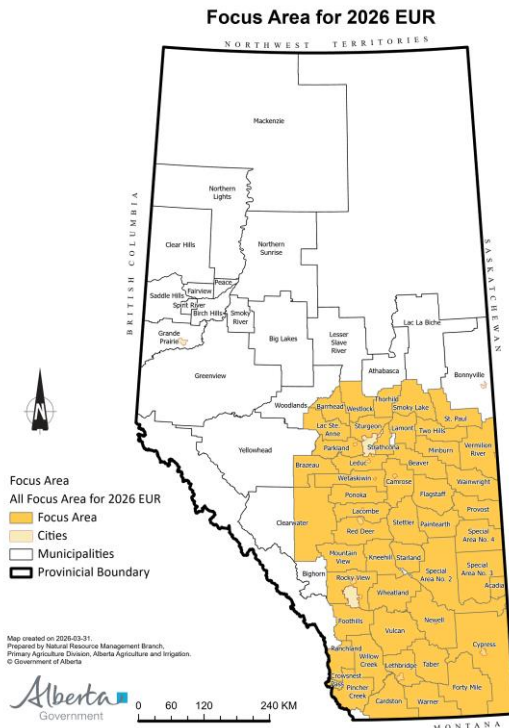
A: Each case contains 24 bottles.

### **Q: How much does one bottle treat?**

A: One kg of grain treated with a 250 mL bottle treats approximately one acre.

### **Q: Where has strychnine been approved for use?**

A: Use is limited to approved municipalities and zones under the EUR. These areas are outlined on the approved map. The M.D. of Provost is in the EUR Focus Area.



### **Q: How long will farmers be able to use this substance?**

A: The Emergency Use Registration is effective until November 1, 2027.

### **Q: Where can I find more information on this announcement by Health Canada?**

A: The announcement by Health Canada can be found [here](#).

Current as of April 24, 2026. The information depicted is subject to change, therefore the M.D. of Provost assumes no responsibility for discrepancies at time of use

## **Strychnine Distribution & Purchase Guidelines**

**Q: Who is an approved vendor for strychnine?**

A: Distribution of this product is restricted to Municipalities that hold a Pesticide Vendor Registration issued by Alberta Environment and Protect Areas and has trained staff to distribute Strychnine. The M.D. of Provost No. 52 meets these requirements.

**Q: Where can I find information on the 2% liquid strychnine label and brochure?**

A: The product label and brochure can be found on Health Canada's website [here](#). Click on Registration Number 28751 to obtain the approved bottle label.

**Q: Is there a restriction on the amount of strychnine someone can buy?**

A: Applicants are limited to a maximum purchase of two cases at a time, pending availability and supply. Each consisting of 24 bottles of 250 ml 2% liquid strychnine.

**Q: Are producers able to purchase individual bottles?**

A: Yes, individual bottles are able to be sold.

**Q: Can a producer purchase smaller amounts or pre-mix product for eligible applicators?**

A: Product cannot be sold in smaller amounts than what is in a bottle or premixed as this is considered decanting. Decanting of rodenticides is a contravention of the federal Pest Control Products Act. Newly packaged rodenticide bait is no longer in approved packaging and may be considered an unregistered pest control product.

## **Producer Purchase Requirements**

### **Q: Who is allowed to purchase 2% liquid strychnine?**

A: Only a landowner (commercial agriculturalist) or legally recognized operator (e.g., leaseholder or renter with written agreement) who has completed the required training and is a rate payer of the associated municipality. Proxys are not permitted. The release of 2% liquid strychnine to persons that claim to represent trained applicators is prohibited.

### **Q: How can a farmer access the Farmer Training Program?**

A: The farmer training will be online through a Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) website starting May 4, 2026. The training will feature chapter-based modules and knowledge checks, with certificates issued upon completion. A pre-recorded presentation will be delivered by James Tansey, Pest Management Specialist, with the Government of Saskatchewan.

### **Q. How can an Agricultural Fieldmen confirm that a farmer has completed their training?**

A. A producer will receive a certificate once they have completed the training. They can provide a copy of their certificate to the municipality at time of purchase or a municipality can confirm their certificate on a SharePoint site that the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) will be managing. Note: There may be a short reporting delay while the certificates are uploaded to this site. To avoid reporting delay, email your certificate to [LStang@mdprovost.ca](mailto:LStang@mdprovost.ca) (This personal information is being collected under the authority of Section 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act, and will be used for administrative purposes. If you have any questions about the collection, contact the administrator at (780)753-2434)

### **Q: Where does a producer purchase 2% liquid strychnine if they farm in multiple municipalities?**

A: Producers must identify **one municipality** (typically their home quarter) from which they will purchase. They may apply product on eligible land in other approved areas.

### **Q. What does a farmer need to access 2% liquid strychnine?**

A. Producers must provide proof of training completion, legal land location, signed declaration form that confirms label compliance and Integrated Pest Management and Monitoring Plans.

### **Q. Does a municipality need to define and confirm a severe infestation?**

A. Severe infestations are defined by the 2% Liquid Strychnine Emergency Use Registration map.

### **Q: Will distribution be first come, first served?**

A: No. The intent is to prioritize need, not first-come access, due to limited supply.

## **Producer Application Requirements**

### **Q: Who is allowed to apply strychnine?**

A: Use is restricted to eligible farmers, ranchers or commercial agriculturalist who own land and have completed the mandatory training.

### **Q: Can hired hands or farm employees apply strychnine?**

A: Hired hands or farm employees that are certified pesticide applicators under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act are permitted to apply strychnine, if they complete the training.

### **Q: Can family members apply strychnine?**

A: The family member must be listed on the land title, lease, or rental agreement. Being a family member alone does not qualify them. To be eligible to use this product, a family member not on title must be a certified pesticide applicator under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act.

### **Q: How does this apply to rented or leased land?**

A: Renters or leaseholders may apply strychnine if they have a valid written agreement and have completed the required training.

### **Q: How does this apply to corporations or Hutterite colonies?**

A: For Hutterite colonies members are permitted to apply due to how land title is structured. For other corporations/co-ops individuals must be certified pesticide applicators, as there is no single titled landowner.

### **Q: When is the application window:**

A: Use is only permitted during early spring (March 1 – June 15) before national vegetation has emerged and in late summer (July 15 - September 1) after vegetation has died down. Spring is the best time to apply strychnine.

### **Q: Can product be applied on First Nations' lands?**

A: First Nations' lands are outside of the Government of Alberta's jurisdiction. Renters of these lands are encouraged to consult landowners and their rental agreements.

### **Q: Do farmers need to post signage when treating a RGS colony?**

A: Yes, signage must be posted at all treatment sites. Signs can be obtained from the municipality where they purchased 2% liquid strychnine.

## **Monitoring, Audits, and Compliance**

### **Q: What monitoring is required by the applicator after application?**

A: It is recommended that two search areas must be established and monitored twice a day in daylight each day for 7 days following application of strychnine:

1. Targeted search area
2. Broader monitoring area

For all monitoring activities:

- Record date, time, weather conditions, and observations
- Document number and species (if identifiable) of any carcasses found
- Record disposal method

Twice a day monitoring is required when there are economically significant infestations in areas with increased SAR likelihood or near critical habitat.

### **Q: Who conducts audits or inspections?**

A: Random or targeted audits may be conducted by Government of Alberta officials or directed representatives. Officials may conduct audits on a portion of fields treated with strychnine to ensure that the stewardship program eligibility requirements are maintained and label use restrictions have been followed.

The Pesticides Regulatory Directorate (formerly PMRA) may also conduct audits.

Vendors are encouraged to follow all product label requirements, verify that applicants meet eligibility requirements, and ensure their processes are well documented to support any audit or inspection activities.

### **Q: What happens if rules or label directions are not followed?**

A: Misusing 2% liquid strychnine – such as applying incorrectly, leaving bait where non-target animals can access it, or using it without proper authorization – can lead to serious consequences under the Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and [Canada Pest Control Products Act](#). Penalties for misuse may include:

- Loss of access to the product and a requirement of the completion of additional training on the Stewardship Program to access strychnine in the future.
- Reporting under pesticide legislation with:
  - o Potential provincial penalties of up to \$100,000 for individuals or \$500,000 for corporations.
  - o Potential federal penalties of up to \$250,000 for individuals or \$1,000,000 for corporations.

## **Disposal and Environmental Safety**

### **Q: How must unused product be disposed of?**

A: Unused 2% strychnine, unused (mixed) bait, and empty containers (NOT triple rinsed) are considered hazardous waste and **must be triple rinsed and returned to the MD shop.**

### **Q. How long will farmers be able to use this substance?**

A: The emergency use registration is valid until Nov. 1, 2027.

## **Species at Risk**

### **Q: What species at risk are found in my municipality?**

A: Species at risk vary by location and may change over time. The most reliable way to determine which species at risk may be present in your municipality is to consult official species-at-risk mapping and information tools, rather than relying on static lists.

### **Q. How do I find out more information on species at risk?**

A: Alberta Species at Risk website – provides information on provincially listed species, recovery plans, and fact sheets.

Alberta Conservation Information Management System (ACIMS) – used by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas for tracking wildlife occurrences.

Species at Risk Public Registry (Government of Canada) – provides federal listings, maps, and species profiles under the Species at Risk Act (SARA).

### **Q: Who do I contact if I suspect an applicator is applying product in an RGS colony frequented by species at risk?**

A: If you suspect product is being applied in an area where species at risk may be present:

- Contact Alberta Environment and Protected Areas – Fish and Wildlife
- If there is an immediate concern, contact the Report A Poacher (RAP) line: 1-800-642-3800

These reports allow enforcement and wildlife specialists to assess and respond appropriately.

### **Q. What happens if a non-target animal, including species at risk, are poisoned?**

A. As indicated on signed declaration form, all non-target poisoning must be reported to the municipality, who will then report it to Fish and Wildlife.

This would likely lead to an investigation to ensure that product is being used correctly followed by some coaching and advice from an expert on how to avoid any further non-target poisoning.

Species at risk are managed primarily under the Alberta Wildlife Act (Part 8: Offences and Penalties) and accompanying regulations.

- For individuals: fines of up to \$100,000 per offence, with possible imprisonment of up to 1 year.
- For corporations: Fines may exceed \$500,000 for a serious offence.

Penalties may apply when a species at risk is unlawfully harmed under the Canada – Species at Risk Act (Section 97).

- Individuals may be fined up to \$50,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 1 year; corporations may be fined up to \$300,000

- If the harm caused is serious or deliberate individuals may be fined up to \$250,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years; corporations up to \$1,000,000.