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## Section 1 - Identification of Chemical Product and Company

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**Richgro Garden Products**  
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**Substance:** Water based solution of acetic acid and common salt.  
**Trade Name:** **Richgro Beat-a-Weed Natural Weed Killer**  
**Product Use:** Domestic herbicide for use as described on the product label.  
**Creation Date:** **December, 2009**  
**This version issued:** **February, 2013.**

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## Section 2 - Hazards Identification

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### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: C, Corrosive.

**Hazardous according to the criteria of SWA.**

**Dangerous according to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.**

**Risk Phrases:** R34, R37/38. Causes burns. Irritating to respiratory system and skin.

**Safety Phrases:** S20, S23, S26, S28, S38, S46, S24/25, S36/39. When using, do not eat or drink. Do not breathe vapours or mists. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of soap and water. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment. If swallowed, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre immediately and show this MSDS or label. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear suitable protective clothing and eye/face protection.

**SUSDP Classification:** None allocated.

**ADG Classification:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**UN Number:** 1760, CORROSIVE LIQUID, N.O.S.

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## Emergency Overview

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**Physical Description & Colour:** Clear colourless liquid.

**Odour:** Strong vinegar odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** Causes burns, irritating to respiratory system and skin.

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## Potential Health Effects

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### Inhalation:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is a severe inhalation irritant. Symptoms may include headache, extreme irritation of nose and throat and increased secretion of mucous in the nose and throat. Other symptoms may also become evident, and may last long after exposure has ceased. If liquid enters nasal passages, it will cause pain and burn nasal membranes. Patients with inhalation burns may develop acute pulmonary oedema.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term inhalation.

### Skin Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is a severe skin irritant. Symptoms may include extreme itchiness and reddening of contacted skin. Other symptoms such as blisters may also become evident, and may last long after exposure has ceased.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term skin exposure.

### Eye Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** This product is corrosive to eyes. It will cause severe pain, and corrosion of the eye and surrounding facial tissues. Unless exposure is quickly treated, permanent blindness and facial scarring is likely.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term eye exposure.

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**Ingestion:**

**Short Term Exposure:** Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. However, this product is corrosive to the gastrointestinal tract. Capable of causing moderate to severe burns with ulceration. Can penetrate to deeper layers of skin, resulting in third degree burns. Corrosion will continue until product is removed or neutralised. Severity depends on concentration and duration of exposure.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term ingestion.

**Carcinogen Status:**

**SWA:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by SWA.

**NTP:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

**IARC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

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**Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients**


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Ingredients	CAS No	Conc. %	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Acetic acid	64-19-7	90 g/L	25	37
Sodium chloride	7647-14-5	40 g/L	not set	not set
Other non hazardous ingredients	secret	<100 g/L	not set	not set
Water	7732-18-5	to 100	not set	not set

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The SWA TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that may be equalled (but should not be exceeded) for no longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit should never be exceeded, even briefly, because of the rapid action of the substance.

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**Section 4 - First Aid Measures**


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**General Information:**

You should call **The Poisons Information Centre** if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. **The number is 13 11 26** from anywhere in Australia (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) and is available at all times. Have this MSDS with you when you call.

**Inhalation:** If inhalation occurs, contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor at once. Remove source of contamination or move victim to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, oxygen may be beneficial if administered by trained personnel, preferably on a doctor's advice. **DO NOT** allow victim to move about unnecessarily. Symptoms of pulmonary oedema can be delayed up to 48 hours after exposure.

**Skin Contact:** Wash gently and thoroughly with water (use non-abrasive soap if necessary) for 20 minutes by the clock. Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (e.g. watchbands and belts) and completely decontaminate them before reuse or discard. If irritation persists, repeat flushing and obtain medical advice.

**Eye Contact:** Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 20-30 minutes, by the clock, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Neutral saline solution may be used as soon as it is available. **DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING.** If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto face. If irritation persists, repeat flushing. Call a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor urgently. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

**Ingestion:** If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting; rinse mouth thoroughly with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre. Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed. Give activated charcoal if instructed.

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**Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures**


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**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire.

This product is likely to decompose only after heating to dryness, followed by further strong heating.

Fire decomposition products from this product may be toxic if inhaled. Take appropriate protective measures.

**Extinguishing Media:** Not Combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials.

**Fire Fighting:** If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade.

**Flash point:** Does not burn.

**Upper Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Lower Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Autoignition temperature:** Not applicable - does not burn.

**Flammability Class:** Does not burn.

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Emergency Telephone Number: 1800 455 132

Poisons Information Centre: 13 11 26 from anywhere in Australia, (0800 764 766 in New Zealand)

## Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

**Accidental release:** This product is sold in small packages, and the accidental release from one of these is not usually a cause for concern. For minor spills, clean up, rinsing to sewer and put empty container in garbage. Although no special protective clothing is normally necessary because of occasional minor contact with this product, it is good practice to wear impermeable gloves when handling chemical products. In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses and call emergency services.

## Section 7 - Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this MSDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

**Storage:** Store packages of this product in a cool place. Make sure that containers of this product are kept tightly closed. Keep containers of this product in a well ventilated area. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Incompatibilities" in Section 10. Some liquid preparations settle or separate on standing and may require stirring before use. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

## Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

The following **Australian Standards** will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Industrial Clothing: **AS2919**, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

SWA Exposure Limits	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Acetic acid	25	37

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

**Ventilation:** This product should only be used in a well ventilated area. If natural ventilation is inadequate, use of a fan is suggested.

**Eye Protection:** Your eyes must be completely protected from this product by splash resistant goggles with face shield. All surrounding skin areas must be covered. Emergency eye wash facilities must also be available in an area close to where this product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** It is essential that all skin areas are adequately covered by impermeable gloves, overalls, hair covering, apron and face shield. See below for suitable material types.

**Protective Material Types:** We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, PVC.

**Respirator:** Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned above.

Safety deluge showers should, if practical, be provided near to where this product is being used.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Clear colourless liquid.
<b>Odour:</b>	Strong vinegar odour.
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	Approximately 100°C at 100kPa.
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	Below 0°C.
<b>Volatiles:</b>	Water component.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	2.37 kPa at 20°C (water vapour pressure).
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	No data.
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Completely soluble in water.
<b>pH:</b>	2.0-2.5
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Odour Threshold:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water Distribution:</b>	No data
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	Not applicable - does not burn.

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## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

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**Reactivity:** This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. However, if you have any doubts, contact the supplier for advice on shelf life properties.

**Conditions to Avoid:** This product should be kept in a cool place, preferably below 30°C. Keep containers tightly closed. Keep containers and surrounding areas well ventilated.

**Incompatibilities:** bases, strong oxidising agents, zinc, tin, aluminium and their alloys.

**Fire Decomposition:** This product is likely to decompose only after heating to dryness, followed by further strong heating: Carbon dioxide, and if combustion is incomplete, Carbon monoxide and smoke, Hydrogen chloride gas, other compounds of chlorine, water, Sodium compounds. Carbon monoxide poisoning produces headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, confusion, dimness of vision, disturbance of judgment, and unconsciousness followed by coma and death.

**Polymerisation:** This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

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## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

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**Local Effects:**

**Target Organs:** There is no data to hand indicating any particular target organs.

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## Classification of Hazardous Ingredients

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Ingredient	Risk Phrases
Acetic acid	>=25%Conc<90%: C; R34

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## Section 12 - Ecological Information

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Insufficient data to be sure of status and expected to not be an environmental hazard in the long term. However, until diluted it will kill all aquatic organisms it contacts due to low pH and its salt content.

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## Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

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**Disposal:** Dispose of small quantities and empty containers by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage. For larger quantities, if recycling or reclaiming is not possible, use a commercial waste disposal service.

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## Section 14 - Transport Information

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**ADG Code:** 1760, CORROSIVE LIQUID, N.O.S.

**Hazchem Code:** 2X

**Special Provisions:** 223, 274

**Limited quantities:** ADG 7 specifies a Limited Quantity value of 5 L for this class of product.

**Dangerous Goods Class:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**Packaging Group:** III

**Packaging Method:** P001, IBC03, LP01

Class 8 Corrosive Substances shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 1 (Explosives), 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet Substances), 5.1 (Oxidising Agents), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides), 6 (Toxic Substances where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids), 7 (Radioactive Substances), Foodstuffs and foodstuff empties. They may however be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 2.1 (Flammable Gases), 2.2 (Non-Flammable, Non-Toxic Gases), 2.3 (Poisonous Gases), 3 (Flammable liquids), 4.1 (Flammable Solids), 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Substances), 6 (Toxic Substances except where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids) and 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods).

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## Section 15 - Regulatory Information

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**AICS:** All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are compliant with NICNAS regulations.

The following ingredient: acetic acid, is mentioned in the SUSDP.

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## Section 16 - Other Information

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**This MSDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.**

### Acronyms:

<b>ADG Code</b>	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (7 <sup>th</sup> edition)
<b>AICS</b>	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
<b>SWA</b>	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
<b>CAS number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>R-Phrase</b>	Risk Phrase
<b>SUSDP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs & Poisons
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

THIS MSDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS MSDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This MSDS is prepared in accord with the SWA document "National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets" 2nd Edition [NOHSC: 2001(2003)]

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