

Current state of products for wood preservation in Poland

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Abstract: *Current state of products for wood preservation.* The current situation of products for wood preservation market in Poland is shown in this paper. Quantitative analysis of the state of the art was included. Report concerns wood preservatives registered in products type placed in Group 8 (PT8). The work based on data existing in Register of Biocidal Products supported by Office for Registration of Medicinal Products, Medicinal Devices and Biocidal Products in Warsaw (September 2014).

Keywords: biocides, biocidal products, wood preservation, PT8

INTRODUCTION

Polish market of biocidal products destined for wood preservation are in constant fluctuation. Number of products available change every year, as well as some names. Chosen producers are withdrawing from Polish market. Some brands are changing their owners. Also, many new products are introduced to the clients. All of this changes should be visible in Registry of Biocidal Products supported by Office of Registration of Medicinal Products, Medicinal Devices and Biocidal Products in Warsaw.

The process of rapid changes in Polish market of biocidal products have begun because of The Biocidal Directive 98/8/WE of European Parliament and Council from 16th of February of 1998. This directive had started 10 year transitional period, which started on 14th of May of 2000, and ended on 14th of May 2010, and was longed by the Directive 2009/107/WE up to 14th of May 2014. During this time all existed biocidal products had been subjected to evaluation in order to create list of active substances that were effective yet provided no harm towards men, animals or environment. Currently, the evaluation program is under continuation and will end on 31st of December 2024 (Ordinance no. 736/2013). In Poland provision of Directive were introduced by the Act on Biocidal Products from 13th of September of 2002 (as amended). Another important for market of biocidal products act is The Act on Building Products from 16th of May 2004, which had changed the classification of biocides. They were no longer considered building products, therefore there had been no need of obtaining a technical approval or any other documents stating that chosen product will be useful in construction.

All products including biocidal component or biocides available on Polish market must be registered in the Registry of Biocidal Products. Currently, Polish law allows two, parallel ways of product introduction into Registry. First one is National Procedure based on article 54, paragraphs 1a, 2 and 5 of the Act on Biocidal Products. Second one is European Procedure,

which has been allowed since 1st of September of 2013, and is based on Regulation of European Parliament and Council no. 528/2012 from 22nd of May 2012 on availability on market and use of biocidal products.

ANALYSIS ON BIOCIDAL PRODUCTS FOR WOOD PRESERVATION

Current situation on biocidal products available in market in Poland have been based on Registry of Biocidal Products from September of 2014. The Registry is published by the Office of Registration of Medical Products, Medical Devices and Biocidal Products and under The Act on Biocidal Products from 2002 has to be open to the public. In this report the Registry of Biocidal Product part I including registry of products for which permits or temporary permits have been given, and Registry of Biocidal Products part III: biocidal products have been used. Also, information given by producers on their websites as well as information gained by direct contact with responsible entity have been used.

The Act on Biocidal Products form 2002 divides biocidal products into four categories with regard to their destined use.

Category I: Products for disinfection and general use biocidal products,

Category II: Products for conservation,

Category III: Biocidal products for pest controlling,

Category IV: Other Biocidal products.

Each category is divided into groups. The only group, in which products for wood can be registered, is group 8 (PT8) ‘products used for wood conservation’ from Category II. This group contains: ‘Products used for conservation of wood from sawmills, also wood undergoing processing in sawmills, or products used for wooden products which aim into combating organisms destroying or disfiguring wood, including insects. These products divides into preservative and healing categories.’ This analysis concerns only products listed in this group.

Currently, number of registered products in PT8 Group is 292, which is a growth of 12,8 % since April 2009.

Table 1. Number of products for wood conservation (PT8) listed in the Registry (as of September 2014)

	National Procedure	European Procedure
Date of first entry to the Registry	23.02.2004	08.03.2012
Quantity of products for PT groups (total)	(PT 1 – PT 23) 3717	(PT 8 – PT 14) 208
Quantity of products in PT 8	197	95
Registered products total	292	

The actual number of unique products available on market is less than 157. For unique products were recognized those which are a unique formulation of active substances. The reduction of number of products in PT8 stems from:

1. out of date entries or products registered under the same name more than once,
2. products being actually the raw material destined for production (active substances) not destined for direct use,
3. questionable qualification to PT8 group: mold destroying add-ons for biocidal products usually registered in PT11 group,
4. same products that are registered under different names or solutions of concentrated products offered as ‘ready to use’ products.

Table 2. Quantity of products registered in PT8 (as of September 2014)

Pos.	Name	Quantity of products
1	Quantity of products total in PT8	292
2	Out of date entries	12
3	Raw materials	12
4	Questionable qualification	1
5	Quantity of products potentially available on market /pos.1 – (pos. 2 + pos. 3 + pos. 4)/	<267
6	Identical products	~110
7	Unique products	<157

Quantitative analysis in view of function shows that among all products included in PT8 the most numerous are those destined for protection against secondary blue stains and mold. There are 158 such products which is 59,2% of all. Second largest group of products are concentrates. There are 89 products in this category (33,3%). The smallest group are products destined for combating domestic fungi and mold. There are only 3 registered products.

Table 3. Quantitative analysis in view of function of products listed in PT8 – out of total of 267 products

Name	Quantity	
Products in form of concentrates	89	33,3%
Decorative and protective products	57	21,3%
Products with additional fire prevention function	13	4,7%
Products for combating insects in wood	9	3,4%
Products for combating domestic fungi and mold	3	1,1%
Products for protection against algae and lichens	8	3,0%
Products for protections of lumber against primary blue stains*	12	4,5%
Products for protection against secondary blue stains and mold	158	59,2%

*products not classified to any of usage classes

Quantitative analysis of data available in official Register in view of usage destination of the products shows that most of products registered in PT8 are destined for wood protection against wood destroying fungi *Basidiomycota* (74,5 %) and those destined for protection against insects (52,1%). Some of the products bears both that functions at once. The separate group of products are those destined specially for pressure impregnation. This group contains 15 products, which is 5,6% of total.

Quantitative analysis in view of range of use shows that most of the registered products are for use in second and third class of usage (according to EN 335).

Table 4. Quantitative analysis in view of function and range of use of products listed in PT8 – percentage out of total of 267 products

Name	Quantity	
Products for protection of wood against <i>Basidiomycota</i> (deep wood decay fungi)	199	74,5%
Products for protection of wood against insects (beetle)	139	52,1%
Products specially for pressure impregnation of wood	15	5,6%
Products for 4 th class of usage	19	7,1%
Products for 2 nd and 3 rd class of usage	218	81,6%

Products for at most 2 nd class of usage	18	6,%
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Among total number of 267 products only for 230 (86,2%) the producer is the responsible entity which apply for registration. The Registry shows 54 different producers, among which 16 are from Poland.

Table 5. Quantitative analysis in view of origination of biocide products (out of total of 54 producers)

Country of origin	Quantity of producers	
Poland	16	29,6%
Germany	7	13%
Czech	5	9%
France	4	7,4%
Denmark	5	9%
Great Britain	3	6%
Other countries: Austria, Belgium, Holland, Finland, Sweden, Spain	14	26%

CONCLUSIONS

Comparison of information based on Registry of Biocidal Products and information gained from producers and responsible entities shows that:

1. Many producers does not share or publish documentary on their products such as: characterization charts, technical manuals, documents stating acceptance for sell in Poland or European Union,
2. Information published online by producers or responsible entities are often divergent from those published in the Registry,
3. Online offers contains products that are not registered,
4. Published information concerning range of use or destination of chosen products (for example on the websites of producers) are far more extensive than those placed in the Registry of Biocidal Products, which rises a concern if given range of use and destination is in accordance with gained allowance,
5. In many cases data included in the Registry does not reflect changes in companies names or transfers of brand between producers,
6. Number of producers modified names of their products (for marketing purposes), though this fact has not been registered. It may bring concerns if such product has allowance to be sold in Poland,
7. The registry lacks unified system of description of products which impedes valuation of destination or range of use of certain products,
8. 71 of total of 267 products (26,6%) products has no available information about their destination or range of use.

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Streszczenie: *Aktualna sytuacja produktów do ochrony drewna w Polsce.* W niniejszym artykule przedstawiono aktualną sytuację produktów ochrony drewna w Polsce. Przedstawiono zarówno analizę ilościową jak i jakościową. Praca dotyczy tylko i wyłącznie produktów z Kategorii II, Grupy 8 (PT8) Rejestru Produktów Biobójczych opublikowanego przez Urząd Rejestracji Produktów Leczniczych, Urządzeń Leczniczych i Produktów Biobójczych w Warszawie (stan na wrzesień 2014).