

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910830805803321
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Titolo	The Biocides Business: Regulation, Safety and Applications
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Place of publication not identified], : Wiley VCH Imprint, 2002
ISBN	1-280-56070-3 9786610560707 3-527-60197-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (397 pages)
Disciplina	363.1792094
Soggetti	Pesticides - Law and legislation Pesticides - Safety regulations
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di contenuto	The political, social, and economic framework / Aynsley Kellow -- The biocides market / Patricia Martin -- Regulatory control of biocides in Europe / Derek J. Knight and Mel Cooke -- Regulation of biocides in the United States / Sue Crescenzi -- Regulatory control of biocides in other countries / Sara Kirkham and Mel Cooke -- Human health, safety, and risk assessment / Roland Solecki -- Environmental safety and risk assessment / Robert Diderich -- Wood preservatives / David Aston -- Slimicides / Ian Gould and James Hingston -- General purpose preservatives / Richard Elsmore -- Disinfectants and public health biocides / Kerys Mullen -- Rodenticides and insecticides / Alan Buckle -- Antifoulants and marine biocides / Carol Mackie and Graham Lloyd.
Sommario/riassunto	Biocides are products which control harmful organisms by chemical or biological means. They protect health, improve product performance and prevent spoilage, and are increasingly important to modern life as consumers demand safe, long-lasting and effective products from cosmetics to paints, and from drinking water to swimming pools.; The worldwide market for biocides is approximately 4 billion annually, and it is growing at up to four per cent per annum. The industry is highly segmented and has a wide range of distribution channels. These markets are generally mature although over-the-counter biocides for home use have commercial characteristics similar to other fast-moving

consumer goods.; Biocides are one of the most highly regulated and controlled types of chemical product. In the EU, the biocides industry is undergoing a dramatic transformation due to the Biocidal Products Directive. The regulations are tougher than any existing legislation either within Europe or indeed in the rest of the world, and could cost the biocide industry over 490 million to put into action. These costs are too high to maintain the existing range of products and some, particularly those in niche markets, will no longer be viable.; This text describes the regulatory controls and the safety assessment methods for biocides for the EU, the USA and Japan and other key markets within a commercial, political and socio-economic context. It provides a broad overview of their main uses as preservatives, disinfectants and pest controls. It will help industry regulators and non-specialist readers get a balanced, up-to-date overview of biocides from the commercial and technical to the regulatory and safety aspects.

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