

Formaldehyde consultation

For farmers and growers in the Netherlands, formaldehyde is an important tool for disinfection of buildings for both crops and animals. Greenhouses are disinfected in between crops eradicating harmful organisms and thus providing a clean and disease free start of the new crop cycle. Disinfection of both mushroom buildings and mushroom substrate in between crops is another important application essential for high quality mushroom growing without using additional pesticides during growth. Furthermore formaldehyde is used in animal houses (predominantly poultry) for disinfection before repopulation. That way organisms that may cause animal diseases are eradicated. Finally formaldehyde is used in foot baths for treating mortellaro disease in dairy cows.

Alternative ways of disinfection with similar effect are not (yet) available for the above mentioned applications. We would like to emphasize that safe use is necessary and exposure to humans has to be avoided due to the properties of formaldehyde. As LTO Nederland we keep supporting research and activities to find alternatives for using formaldehyde. As long as these alternatives are not available formaldehyde is an essential part of the toolbox for farmers and growers with major advantages for crop and animal health.