

The University of Hertfordshire Agricultural Substances EU Risk Phrases

Risk-phrases (also known as R-phrases) are defined in Annex II of EU Directive 67/548/EEC as amended by EU Directive 2001/59/EC which is concerned with identifying special risks attributed to dangerous substances and preparations. Whilst these phrases were developed for Europe they are used and recognised in many countries throughout the world.

Single Codes

R1	Explosive when dry.
R2	Risk of explosion by shock, friction, fire or other sources of ignition.
R3	Extreme risk of explosion by shock, friction, fire or other sources of ignition.
R4	Forms very sensitive explosive metallic compounds.
R5	Heating may cause an explosion.
R6	Explosive with or without contact with air.
R7	May cause fire.
R8	Contact with combustible material may cause fire.
R9	Explosive when mixed with combustible material.
R10	Flammable.
R11	Highly flammable.
R12	Extremely flammable.
R13	<i>Deleted.</i>
R14	Reacts violently with water.
R15	Contact with water liberates extremely flammable gases.
R16	Explosive when mixed with oxidising substances.
R17	Spontaneously flammable in air.
R18	In use, may form flammable/explosive vapour-air mixture.
R19	May form explosive peroxides.
R20	Harmful by inhalation.
R21	Harmful in contact with skin.
R22	Harmful if swallowed.
R23	Toxic by inhalation.
R24	Toxic in contact with skin.
R25	Toxic if swallowed.
R26	Very toxic by inhalation.
R27	Very toxic in contact with skin.
R28	Very toxic if swallowed.
R29	Contact with water liberates toxic gas.
R30	Can become highly flammable in use.
R31	Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.
R32	Contact with acids liberates very toxic gas.
R33	Danger of cumulative effects.
R34	Causes burns.
R35	Causes severe burns.
R36	Irritating to eyes.

R37	Irritating to respiratory system.
R38	Irritating to skin.
R39	Danger of very serious irreversible effects.
R40	Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.
R41	Risk of serious damage to eyes.
R42	May cause sensitisation by inhalation.
R43	May cause sensitisation by skin contact.
R44	Risk of explosion if heated under confinement.
R45	May cause cancer.
R46	May cause heritable genetic damage.
R47	<i>Deleted.</i>
R48	Danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure.
R49	May cause cancer by inhalation.
R50	Very toxic to aquatic organisms.
R51	Toxic to aquatic organisms.
R52	Harmful to aquatic organisms.
R53	May cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.
R54	Toxic to flora.
R55	Toxic to fauna.
R56	Toxic to soil organisms.
R57	Toxic to bees.
R58	May cause long-term adverse effects in the environment.
R59	Dangerous for the ozone layer.
R60	May impair fertility.
R61	May cause harm to the unborn child.
R62	Possible risk of impaired fertility.
R63	Possible risk of harm to the unborn child.
R64	May cause harm to breast-fed babies.
R65	Harmful: may cause lung damage if swallowed.
R66	Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking.
R67	Vapours may cause drowsiness and dizziness.
R68	Possible risk of irreversible effects.