



PermaPine now offers MCA timber preservative

PermaPine, a leading supplier of treated timber in New Zealand, has expanded its offerings to include Micronised Copper Azole (MCA) treatment. Unlike traditional CCA (Chromated Copper Arsenate), MCA provides environmental advantages and better end-of-life options. MCA treatment will solve the major problem vineyards and orchards face with disposal of CCA treated posts.

As New Zealand's leading supplier of CCA-treated posts, poles, and piles, PermaPine has long been committed to providing quality outdoor products for the New Zealand and Pacific Island markets.

PermaPine has recently commissioned a second treatment plant, which provides additional capacity and extends the capacity to "fixate" the timber preservative into treated product following treatment. Customers and end users benefit by receiving drier products.

Along with CCA treatment, PermaPine can now offer an alternative timber preservative called MCA. Micronised Copper Azole treatment will be offered to the vineyard market for products such as Posts, Strainers, Stays and Stay Blocks

What is MCA?

MCA is a wood preservative with two active ingredients: Micronised Copper and Azole. Micronised copper is simply copper carbonate ground down to a fine size. The copper used is almost always from recycled copper metal. Copper is a common fungicide. Azoles are a family of synthetic fungicides originally developed for the human health and crop protection market. The azole used in MCA is also a finely ground particle.

History and use

The first commercial use of MCA was in the USA around 2007. MCA was accepted into the NZ Wood Treatment Standard (NZS3640) in 2012. MCA is commonly used to treat pine species in the US, and is also used in Australia. MCA provides protection for H3, H4 and H5 applications.

Why MCA?

MCA has some advantages compared to CCA.

- ▶ MCA has various environmental certifications, including being certified by Global Green tag, and National Green Building standard.
- ▶ Recyclable at the end of life. Broken / unwanted MCA treated vineyard posts can be dropped at a collection point in your area. PermaPine has partnerships with industrial energy users who are consented to utilise MCA treated posts for energy.
- ▶ PermaPine MCA treated product is backed by a 50-year warranty against insect and fungal attack when used and installed according to industry guidelines.

Why choose WOOD?

As trees grow they sequester carbon. Trees are like mother earth's liver, they filter out all of the CO₂ in the atmosphere that is created through the production of products such as steel, plastic and concrete. When wood is preserved, this stored carbon is locked into the wood. The production of one wooden post sequesters 30kg of carbon, the production of a steel post emits 7.1kg of carbon. The difference equates to 20.35 tonnes of reduced CO₂ per hectare by choosing wood. So why isn't everyone using wood and saving the planet one post at a time? Because of the limited disposal options for CCA treated posts. PermaPine have a solution to this problem, MCA treatment.

