



the art and science of smart patch testing™

FA190: Formic acid

Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to formic acid. This contact allergy may cause your skin to react when it is exposed to this substance although it may take several days for the symptoms to appear. Typical symptoms include redness, swelling, itching, and fluid-filled blisters.

Where is formic acid found?

Formic acid is a preservative and antibacterial agent found in livestock feed. It is also used in the poultry industry to kill salmonella bacteria. Formic acid is also found in the rubber, textile, and cosmetic industry. It is an active ingredient in household limescale removers.

How can you avoid contact with formic acid?

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:

- AI3-24237
- Acide formique
- Acide formique [French]
- Acido formic
- Acido formico [Italian]
- Add-F
- Ameisensaure
- Ameisensaure [German]
- Aminic acid
- Bilorin
- C1 acid
- CCRIS 6039
- Collo-bueglatt
- Collo-didax
- EINECS 200-579-1
- EPA Pesticide Chemical Code 214900
- FEMA No. 2487
- Formic acid
- Formic acid (natural)
- Formira
- Formisoton
- Formylic acid
- HSDB 1646
- Hydrogen carboxylic acid
- Kwas metaniowy
- Kwas metaniowy [Polish]
- Kyselina mravenci
- Kyselina mravenci [Czech]
- Methanoic acid
- Mierenzuur
- Mierenzuur [Dutch]
- Myrmicyl
- RCRA waste number U123
- Spirit of formic acid

What are some products that may contain formic acid?

Household Products:

- Clorox Dual Action Toilet Bowl Cleaner 1 Pt. 9 Fl. Oz. (Chambered Bottle)
- Easy-Off Bam Multi-Surface Power Cleaner, Pump Spray
- Woodfinishers Pride Paint Remover

Liquids:

- Palmolive Aromatherapy Liquid Hand Soap
- Softsoap Advanced Moisture Cashmere Liquid Hand Soap
- Softsoap Body Wash, Pure Cashmere
- Softsoap Body Wash, Ultra Rich Shea Butter

- Softsoap Shea Butter Liquid Hand Soap

*For additional information about products that might contain **formic acid**, go to the Household Product Database online (<http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov>) at the United States National Library of Medicine. These lists are brief and provide just a few examples. They are not comprehensive. Product formulations also change frequently. Read product labels carefully and talk to your doctor if you have any questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.