

PACKAGE LEAFLET

1. Name of the veterinary medicinal product

Tricaine Pharmaq 1000 mg/g powder for solution for fish treatment

2. Composition

Active substances: Tricaine methanesulfonate 1000 mg/g

White crystalline powder.

3. Target species

- 1) Ornamental fish, or their development stages, and
- 2) Breeding and juvenile stages of fish.

4. Indications for use

An aqueous solution of the product is used in an immersion bath for sedation, immobilisation and anaesthesia of fish for: vaccination, transportation, weighing, tagging, clipping, stripping of breed stock, blood sampling and surgical procedures.

5. Contraindications

Do not use in the following tropical fish species:

Apistogramma (Mikrogeophagus) ramirez, *Balantiocheilos melanopterus*, *Etroplus suratensis*, *Melanotaenia maccullochi*, *Monodactylus argenteus*, *Phenacogrammus interruptus* and *Scatophagus argus*

Do not use in cases of hypersensitivity to the active substance.

6. Special warnings

Special warnings:

None.

Special precautions for safe use in the target species:

Do not exceed the dose recommended for each category of fish.

Brood stock anaesthetised for stripping should be immersed in unmedicated water immediately before collection of eggs or milt to avoid significant direct contact of either with the product.

As solutions of the veterinary medicinal product are slightly acidic, the use of a phosphate or imidazol buffer has been proposed to reduce stress.

Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals:

In case of accidental ingestion, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician.

People with known hypersensitivity to tricaine mesilate (tricaine methanesulfonate) should avoid contact with the veterinary medicinal product.

Personal protective equipment consisting of impermeable rubber gloves should be worn when handling the veterinary medicinal product.

Do not create dust when handling the powder or preparing the anaesthetic solution. In case of accidental inhalation of dust, move to fresh air and if breathing is affected, seek medical advice immediately and show the doctor the product label. In situations where dust is created when handling the powder, wear a disposable half mask respirator conforming to European Standard EN 149 or a non-disposable respirator to European Standard EN 140 with a filter to EN 143.

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. In case of accidental contact, immediately wash the affected area with plenty of clean running water. If irritation persists, seek medical advice.

Do not eat, drink or smoke whilst handling this product. Wash hands after use.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment:

In order to protect the environment, used solution must either be

- filtered using activated charcoal filters prior to dilution in the effluent to be discharged from the farm or
- transferred to a holding tank with subsequent controlled release for dilution in the effluent to be discharged from the farm.

See section “Special precautions for disposal” for further advice.

Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction:

Tricaine methanesulfonate has been used successfully at lower concentrations in conjunction with several other anaesthetics. No adverse interaction with other pharmaceuticals has been established.

Overdose:

Remove fish immediately to aerated water of the same composition and temperature that is free from anaesthetic. Overdose or prolonged exposure to the product may cause respiratory failure and death.

Major incompatibilities:

In the absence of compatibility studies, this veterinary medicinal product must not be mixed with other veterinary medicinal products.

7. Adverse events

None known.

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a product. If you notice any side effects, even those not already listed in this package leaflet, or you think that the medicine has not worked, please contact, in the first instance, your veterinarian. You can also report any adverse events to the marketing authorisation holder using the contact details at the end of this leaflet, or via your national reporting system:

HPRA Pharmacovigilance

Website: www.hpra.ie

8. Dosage for each species, routes and method of administration

An aqueous solution of the product is used in an immersion bath for sedation, immobilisation and anaesthesia of fish, both ornamental and those intended for human consumption.

The following examples of dose rates and exposure times are based on laboratory and field experience:

		Concentration mg/litre of water	Immersion time (minutes)
Trout species (7-17°C)			
Sedation		10-30	Up to 480
Anaesthesia	Light	30-80	Up to 30
	Deeper	80-180	Up to 10
Salmon species			
Sedation		7-30	Up to 240
Anaesthesia	Light	30-80	Up to 10
	Deeper	80-100	Up to 5
Bass species			
Sedation		8-30	Up to 480
Anaesthesia	Light	30-70	Up to 20
	Deeper	70-100	Up to 4
Carp species			
Sedation		20-30	Up to 1440
Anaesthesia		30-200	Up to 8
Fresh water tropical fish			
Sedation		30-50	Up to 1440

9. Advice on correct administration

The product should be dissolved in water of the same composition and characteristics as that to which the fish are accustomed. As the product has good aqueous solubility, it may be added directly to the container. Effects on the fish should be monitored as the product is gradually introduced.

A number of factors influence the efficacy and safety of the product, including concentration of the drug in water, duration of exposure, previous exposures to the drug, temperature, oxygen content, salinity and hardness of water, size of fish (smaller are more susceptible) and density of biomass. Because of these variable factors it is strongly recommended that a test of the selected drug concentration and exposure time is conducted with a small group of representative fish before large numbers are medicated. This is especially important when water temperature is at the upper or lower ends of the normal temperature ranges for the species being treated.

Before anaesthesia, or prolonged sedation, fish should be fasted for 12 to 24 hours. During treatment they should be stocked at a density not exceeding 80 g/litre. To minimise damage and loss when medicated for long periods for transport etc. the level of sedation should allow fish to maintain their equilibrium and swimming position. Aeration should be provided unless sedation, or anaesthesia, is of short duration. In anaesthesia loss of reflexes takes place in one to fifteen minutes after immersion, depending upon concentration employed. Narcotised fish should be removed from medicated water and returned to their normal environment as soon as possible, when recovery will take between one and 30 minutes.

10. Withdrawal periods

Fish must not be slaughtered for human consumption during treatment.
Fish can only be harvested for human consumption 70 degree days after the last treatment.

11. Special storage precautions

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Store in the original container. Keep the container tightly closed in order to protect from moisture.
Store in a dry place. Protect solution from direct sunlight.
This veterinary medicinal product does not require any special temperature storage conditions.

Do not use this veterinary medicinal product after the expiry date which is stated on the label after Exp. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Shelf life after dissolution according to directions: 24 hours

12. Special precautions for disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Used solution must either be filtered using activated charcoal filters prior to dilution in the effluent to be discharged from the farm or it must be transferred to a holding tank filled with water with subsequent controlled release for dilution in the effluent to be discharged from the farm.

Filtration

Filtration of used solution through an activated charcoal filter will ensure that the concentration of spent tricaine methanesulfonate in discharge water does not exceed 1 µg/L. Spent carbon filters should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

Holding tank

Transfer of used solution to a holding tank filled with water and controlled release for dilution in the effluent will ensure that the concentration of spent tricaine methanesulfonate in discharge water does not exceed 1 µg/L when releasing the solution from the holding tank at flow rates calculated in the table below (1 000 litre and 50 000 litre holding tanks).

Using the table below, select the appropriate farm flow rate interval and use the pre-calculated discharge flow for release from a 1 000 litre holding tank to calculate the flow rate from the holding tank size applied. Adjust the flow rate from the holding tank into farm effluent accordingly. As an example the flow rates for a 50 000 litre holding tank is also shown.

Farm flow rate (L/min)	Discharge flow (L/h) from holding tank	
	1 000 L holding tank	50 000 L holding tank
10 000-14 999	15	(50*15) 750
15 000-19 999	22	(50*22) 1100
20 000-24 999	30	(50*30) 1500
25 000-29 999	37	(50*37) 1850
30 000-35 000	45	(50*45) 2250

Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any applicable national collection systems. These measures should help to protect the environment.

Ask your veterinary surgeon or pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required.

13. Classification of veterinary medicinal products

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription.

14. Marketing authorisation numbers and pack sizes

VPA10804/006/001

Package sizes:

25 g, 100 g, 250 g and 1000 g.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

15. Date on which the package leaflet was last revised

05/2026

Detailed information on this veterinary medicinal product is available in the Union Product Database (<https://medicines.health.europa.eu/veterinary>).

16. Contact details

Marketing authorisation holder and manufacturer responsible for batch release and contact details to report suspected adverse reactions:

PHARMAQ AS

7863 Overhalla

Norway

E-mail: phq.phvig@zoetis.com

Tel: +47 23 29 85 00

17. Other information

POM (Prescription Only)