



Treating/Preventing Algae (or Fungi) growth in Tanzania



Algae (Fungi) is common in Tanzania, especially in Coastal Areas due to :

- 1 High Humidity
- 2 Warm Temperatures and Sun
- 3 Pollution (dust etc)

Evident especially in the Rainy season

Occurs mainly on **POROUS** surfaces, walls (especially parapets) roofs, concrete floors.



In the dry season this fungi will turn black - this does not mean it is dead - it is in fact hibernating and will turn green again when the rains start

Treatment :

To get rid of this you need to kill/ remove the algae. This can be done by either using a high pressure washer or scrubbing the algae using bleach or chlorine, diluted 1:10 in clean water.

This however is only a short term solution, if the surface remains porous the algae will return.



PRODUCTS :

Long term solution :

To be effective in the long term it is important to prevent the retention / absorption of any water. If you eradicate water absorption/retention you will prevent further algae growth.

ROOFS :

CONCRETE/CLAY Roof Tiles : are very susceptible to Fungi growth due to their porosity.

Treatment :

- 1 In fair weather (dry) conditions the roof should be sprayed (backpack sprayer is ideal) using a 10:1 water:chlorine mix
- 2 Once the roof has been saturated, roof can be scrubbed using a stiff nylon brush and washed down with clean water
- 3 Once the roof is dry it can be treated using a water Repellant sealer as listed below. This is a clear sealer and will not effect the colour of the roof tile

This will effectively seal the roof and prevent further algae growth.

PRODUCTS :





repellent sealer which upon application will penetrate into the substrate and provide water repellency by chemically reacting with the substrate. It has a micro molecular size to achieve deep penetration inhibiting water ingress into the substrate.

704740 Moyashield SR 20L

704751 Water Repellant WR Moyashield 5L

704752 Water Repellant Moyashield 20L

220500 Sikagard 905

NB : Roof areas where there are overhanging trees/leaves are particularly susceptible to blackening/fungi. This can be due to a small insect called White fly which breeds on the back of leaves and secretes a sticky liquid which can land on the roof, and attracts dust/dirt. This is porous and will in turn promote algae growth. The only way to prevent this is to either treat the white fly (spraying dishwashing liquid and water is quite effective) or you need to trim the overhanging leaves.



METAL ROOFING TILES (MRT) : Whilst are less susceptible to blackening, over the years, and especially where there are overhanging trees - blackening (algae/fungi) can occur.

Treatment :

Follow steps 1 & 2 above - no additional sealing is required.

WALLS :

Here we need to consider INTERNAL or EXTERNAL walls:

A : INTERNAL :

Internal damp will cause Fungi/Algae to grow which In turn creates very unhealthy living conditions as it can breed/harbour bacteria.

Cause :

Poor ventilation (eg in shower/bathroom areas) and high humidity (steam etc)

Treatment :

Effected area should be treated (sponge or paintbrush) using a 10:1 water : chlorine mix or domestic bleach. This can be sprayed on using a simple bottle spray

PRODUCTS :



450025 Granular Chlorine 90% 25 KG

440100 440100-Chlorine 4kgs

440200 440200-Chlorine 10kgs

Prevention :

Ventilation should be increased (Installing a Fan or Window)

Sealing the walls using a high acrylic paint or Repellant (if walls are porous) will prevent algae growth?

PRODUCTS :



291000 SYNROOF HI-BUILD is an elastometric, single pack roofing compound. Based on special Acrylic Polymers, it is ideal for dry substrate where it forms a seamless, joint free, water and weather tight elastic membrane.

- Resistant to aging & UV radiation
- Accepts light foot traffic
- Withstands temperatures from - 5° C to +100° C
- Ease of application
- Non-toxic & non-hazardous
- Non-flammable as a liquid compound

B: EXTERNAL

External walls are particularly susceptible to Algae/fungi growth if plaster/paint coating is porous and retains/absorbs water.

1 TOP of Wall (within 1m of the top of the wall).

This is normally due to water collecting on the parapet (boundary wall) and "drip feeding" into the plaster or paint, or can be near water outlet (flat roofs)

Treatment :

In fair weather (dry) conditions the wall should be sprayed (backpack sprayer is ideal) using a 10:1 water:chlorine mix

Once the wall has been saturated, it can be scrubbed using a stiff nylon brush and washed down with clean water

Once the wall is dry it can be treated using a water Repellent sealer as listed below. This is a clear sealer and will not affect the colour of the wall.



Alternatively it can be painted using a high acrylic sealant (eg Synroof) especially on the parapets. This will prevent water ingress which will i. Turn prevent algae/fungi growth

This will effectively seal the walls and prevent further algae growth.



PRODUCTS :

2 BOTTOM of the wall (up to 1m from the base of the wall).

This is a more serious problem, and is normally as a result of the wall being built without any damp course.

Treatment : This can be more difficult to treat as it implies the cause is Rising Damp. For this treatment see sheet on RISING DAMP . For external walls (boundary) the cost and hassle is often not worth the full treatment, follow the steps as mentioned above. For Internal Damp please request RISING DAMP sheet.

220500-Sikagard 905W 5L