

Removal of Algae from Viking's CertainTeed Shingles

The growth of algae on roofs is caused by airborne spores, and is particularly prevalent in humid areas. Although this will not affect the serviceable life of the roof, over time it can become unsightly, discolouring the roof, giving it a brown or black appearance.

To prevent algae growth, CertainTeed shingles are available with an AR (algae-resistant) formula applied to the shingle. These shingles contain copper granules preventing algae growth.

Discolouring caused by algae can be lightened by applying a solution of chlorine bleach and water as follows:

- 1) Mix a solution of 1 part chlorine bleach with 3 parts of water.
- 2) Apply this solution (using a low pressure hand held sprayer) over the asphalt shingles.
- 3) Do not scrub the tiles, as this may remove the mineral chip, damaging the shingle.
- 4) After 15 minutes, rinse the bleach solution from the roof by gently spraying with clean water.

In order to prevent the return of algae, a copper or zinc coated metal strip can be installed under the top row of shingles on either side of the ridge. With approximately 60mm exposed, rain water will run down the roof carrying traces of the metal, killing off any algae growth.

Chlorine bleach (such as Janola) is available from most hardware stores.

N.B If potable water is being collected from the roof, disconnect all down pipes prior to applying the chlorine solution.

Viking Roofspec does not recommend the use of any other alternative form of treatment.

For more information please phone our office on

0800 729 799