



Land Based Application of Agrichemical Sprays and Powders



Agrichemicals include all pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides, but do not include fertilisers.

Aerial **application** of agrichemicals is covered by a separate pamphlet. Discharge of agrichemicals **into any** water, or onto land in the Coastal 'Marine Area requires a **resource consent** from the Wellington 'Regional Council.

Application to land

Any person may carry out land based agrichemical application as **long as you** comply with the following conditions. If you cannot comply, you must apply for a resource consent from the Wellington Regional Council.

1. **All applications must comply with conditions (i) - (vi), including:**
 - **application by hand; or**
 - **with a hand operated and manually pumped sprayer with a capacity of 20 litres or less; or**
 - **by other means to an area NOT located within 50 metres of adjacent properties or places of common public assembly**
- (i) No agrichemicals are applied on or above water bodies, artificial watercourses, bores, or springs **unless** they're registered for use over water bodies, e.g., Glyphosates (e.g., Roundup) and Diquats (e.g., Paraquat and Reglone)
- (ii) Where agrichemical sprays or powders are applied to the **dry beds of any surface** water bodies or artificial watercourses:
 - only products **registered** for use in dry watercourses are applied; and
 - all practical steps are taken to ensure that the appropriate re-entry time is allowed to elapse before water re-enters the watercourse.
- (iii) Spray solutions **are** diluted, and sprays and powders are applied, strictly in **accordance** with the manufacturers' instructions and at concentration: not exceeding the manufacturers' label recommendations.
- (iv) No mixing or diluting of chemicals takes place within 20 metres of a surface water body, a bore, spring, tile drain or the coastal marine area unless the mixing or diluting takes place on an impervious surface which is **bunded** to **contain** washdown water or spillages.
- (v) Sprays and powders are applied in a manner which does not cause or is not likely to cause adverse **effects** beyond the boundary of the **property**.
- (vi) The Wellington Regional Council is notified immediately in the case of accidental discharge into a water body.

2. Agrichemical application by means other than manual to an area that IS located within 50 metres of adjacent properties, or places of common public assembly (e.g., schools, kindergartens, offices, etc)

Comply with (i)-(vi) above; AND

(vii) Written notice (either direct or public notification) in the form of a property spray plan is given to all adjacent properties or places of common public assembly located within 50 metres of the area to be sprayed or dusted with agrichemical powder.

Notification takes place prior to the spraying, not less than once a year, at the beginning of the year or spray season. Notification is unnecessary if owners or occupiers of adjacent properties or places of public assembly agree in writing that notification is not required;

The property spray plan must include details of:

- (a) the property, or part of property, to be sprayed or dusted with powder;
- (b) the periods (day(s), date(s) and time(s)) when the agrichemical sprays or powders will be applied;
- (c) the crops or vegetation to be sprayed and a list of chemicals (with brand names) to be used;
- (d) any safety precautions for third parties, as noted in the most recent edition of the New Zealand Agrichemical and Plant Protection Manual (WHAM Chemsafe Ltd.);
- (e) a list of immediate neighbours, and their contact phone numbers;
- (f) identification of sensitive areas (e.g., residential buildings, school buildings, amenity areas, public water supply catchments, water bodies, sensitive crops or farming systems, wetlands, public roads) and the strategies employed to avoid contamination of those areas; .
- (g) the name and contact phone number of those carrying out the agrichemical application; and
- (h) the equipment and method of application to be used.

(viii) A spray diary showing how the spray plan was implemented, must be maintained and made available for inspection. It must contain:

- date and time of spray/powder application;
- concentration and volume of spray/powder used;
- weather conditions (including wind speed and direction);
- how notification requirements have been met; and
- details of any abnormal situation/incident, action taken and variations to the spray plan.

3. Applying agrichemical sprays or powders by any 'means in public areas and alongside public roadways

Comply with conditions (i)-(vi) above; AND

(ix) The Principal Contractor holds a current Registered Chemical Applicators Certificate, and employees hold a Standard GROWSAFE Certificate issued by the New Zealand Agrichemical Education Trust.

(x) Where spraying or the application of powders occurs in a public area other than roads, signs clearly advising that spraying is in progress are placed within the immediate vicinity of the activity immediately prior to commencing spraying, and maintained in place until the re-entry period for that particular chemical has expired.

(xi) Where spraying or the application of powders occurs alongside public roads and other public thoroughfares, vehicles associated with the spraying shall display prominent signs (front and back) advising that spraying is in progress.

Check out our Regional Plans at your community library, or on our web-site at www.wrc.govt.nz. For further enquiries, please call our Environment Help Desk in Wellington, Ph. (04) 384 5708, or Planning and Resources in Wairarapa, Ph. (06) 378 2484.