



Avoid poor Practices during Herbicide Application

The Challenge

One foil seal of a pesticide container contains enough pesticide to breach 0.1 microgram/L level along 30 km of a typical stream- Keep herbicides out of water

Aim for spray application in ideal conditions

- Target weed must be growing. Avoid cold frosty conditions
- Phenoxy herbicides take about 4-6 hours rain free to get into the plant
- Check the target weed species is actually susceptible to the herbicide
- Get the timing right – target young plant with active growth at application
- Make sure the crop is not under stress due to poor nutrition, drought or disease otherwise weed control will be reduced and there is the possibility of damage to the crop



Stewardship- Key Actions- Do's and Don'ts

- Use approved products, applied by trained operators with current qualifications
- "Be Water Aware"- Obey the 5 M buffer zone
- Do not spray if rain is forecast within 48 Hrs
- Do not spray on waterlogged fields (if you can see tyre marks it is too wet)
- Do not fill the sprayer from a water course or perform handling operations beside a water course.
- Take every precaution during filling to avoid spillages or drips
- For MCPA based herbicide products e.g. NU 46 (MCPA 500 g/l) - Never exceed the Maximum Application rate (Now 2.7 L/Ha)
- Clean and wash down your sprayer at the end of the day preferably in the field and well away from any watercourse
- Avoid Issues with exceedances in sensitive water catchment areas





Spraying in Grassland – Best Practice Guidelines

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)- Consider and use the correct type of protective equipment e.g. Gloves, face-shield, coveralls, etc specified on every product label
- Mark-out fields to be sprayed to ensure complete coverage of the treated area without overdosing. In addition to legal and environmental non-compliance, overlapping sprayer swaths is inefficient (waste of herbicide/money), may damage grass and extend sward recovery time
- Measure and mark bout widths accurately using a measuring tape or wheel. DO NOT pace-out sighting poles/marker flags
- Foam markers are a great visual aid to show the extent of headland swaths. They can also be a helpful check that you are driving to the correct marker flag or pole, but they are not accurate enough to use instead of measured markers, tramlines or GPS
- If spot or patch-spraying grassland, a marker dye is useful to identify what has/has not already been sprayed and avoids unnecessary reapplication



PROTECT YOUR WATER

			
Use Plant Protection Products safely.	Ensure only certificated spray operators and equipment apply the products.	Observe all product buffer zones.	Clean and wash down your sprayer at the end of the day, well away from water bodies or open drains.
			
Do not fill or wash down sprayer in yard unless measures to collect washings for safe disposal in place.	Do not use on waterlogged fields, if tyre marks are visible the field is too wet.	Do not exceed the maximum application rate.	Do not use if rainfall is expected. Apply on a calm day when weather conditions are good.



FURTHER INFORMATION

More information on the Nufarm Stewardship programme can be found here <https://nufarm.com/ie/stewardship/>

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Details of application rates and timings are given in Nufarm labels and product literature; both of which can be accessed from our website www.nufarm.com/ie Alternatively, ring the Nufarm helpline on 01274 694714, Monday to Friday 9.00 - 17.00

Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use. For label and safety information, refer to the Nufarm website www.nufarm.com/ie. Nufarm UK Ltd, Wyke Lane, Wyke, Bradford, BD12 9EJ.

