



Contractor's Guide to Agrichemical Spraying

About this guide

This is a guide to the Waikato Regional Plan rules for agrichemical spraying by contractors. For comprehensive information, read 6.2 The Discharge of Agrichemicals into Air of the *Waikato Regional Plan* found at waikatoregion.govt.nz/regional-plan.

To comply with Waikato Regional Plan rule 6.2: The Discharge of Agrichemicals into Air, contractors carrying out wide-spread spraying or working in public places must ensure:

- they are qualified to apply agrichemicals
- a spray plan has been completed
- notifications have been done
- a spray diary is completed.

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Qualifications

- Any person undertaking widespread spraying or carrying out spraying in a public area for hire or reward holds the appropriate qualification or is appropriately supervised as required by law. (see [NZS 8409:2021 Management of Agrichemicals](#) for general legal requirements and also [Hazardous Substances \(Hazardous Property Controls\) Notice 2017](#) for highly ecotoxic agrichemicals.)
- Pilots undertaking the aerial application of agrichemicals must have a Pilot's Chemical Rating issued by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Preparing a spray plan

Rule 6.2.4.9 of the *Waikato Regional Plan* requires a spray plan to be prepared for any widespread spraying work, including in public places. For further guidance see [NZS 8409:2021 Management of Agrichemicals](#), G2 Development of a Spray Plan, page 132.

A spray plan needs to include:

- the name of the property owner, property manager and contact details
- when and how the neighbours will be notified
- the name of the qualified agrichemical applicator and contact details
- details of neighbours adjoining the property boundary
- details and/or plan or map showing the area and location of spraying, location of sensitive areas including houses, schools and roads (especially those used by school children), sensitive crops (refer [Waikato Regional Plan - 6.2.3 Policy 1 and 2](#), relating to the Application of Agrichemicals and Sensitive Areas respectively)
- the plants to be sprayed, herbicide likely to be used, time of year the spraying is likely to be carried out
- strategies to be used to avoid off-target effects
- the name of the person likely to be doing the spraying and their qualification
- conditions which may increase spray drift (refer [NZS8409:2021](#) for Table H1 Drift Hazard Guidance Chart, page 140)
- an indication of the herbicide which may present a specific hazard (e.g. toxic to bees).

Spray plans

- The owner, occupier or manager of the property to be sprayed must prepare a spray plan. Contractors for Waikato Regional Council will either be provided with a spray plan or will be asked to prepare one. Contractors must keep a copy of the spray plan and adhere to the conditions prescribed in it.



Notifications

WHEN NOTIFICATION OF HERBICIDE SPRAYING IS REQUIRED

Ground based spraying on private land further than 50m from property boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requirement unless requested by someone. Notification can be in any form agreed by parties.
Ground based spraying within 50m of property boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal or written* notification** to adjoining neighbours or any other person requesting notice between 12 hours and 3 weeks prior to spraying or annual written advice to any person likely to be directly affected that a spray plan is available on request – notification procedures to be mutually agreed and specified in spray plan. Signage required where boundary is within a public amenity area.
Spraying in a public amenity area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written notice* or verbal notification** of those who may be affected between 12 hours and 3 weeks prior to spraying or annual or seasonal notification* or written notice* prior to discharge.
Aerial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal or written notice* to adjoining neighbours or any other person requesting notice.

*Written notice can include circulars in mail, newspaper advertising, emails or signage along property boundaries

**Notification to include:

- that spray plan is available for viewing
- herbicide and HSNO classification
- name and contact phone numbers for further information
- likely date, time and duration of discharge
- location of discharge.

Therefore: When spraying in public amenity areas, an annual notice in newspapers is acceptable, and a spray plan is required. Signage along the boundaries is also acceptable, providing it is erected between 12 hours and 3 weeks prior, and a spray plan is required.

Public amenity includes those areas to which the public have right of access under any statute, regulation, law or bylaw, which may include:

- Crown or council properties, reserves, gardens, parks and airfields
- grasslands, sports grounds and recreational turf
- forest and bush areas
- road and rail verges and embankments, pedestrian walkways, malls and precincts
- beaches and beach reserves and adjacent foreshore areas.

Spray plan: General

Spray plan		Date:		
		Prepared by:		
		Copy to:		
Property owner:		Sensitive areas	Detail	
Property manager:		Houses		
Address:		Schools		
		Roads		
		Water		
		Crops/ vegetation		
		Other		
Notification	Type	Details		Date
	Public notice			
	Neighbours (email or contact personally)			
	Signage			
Pest plant(s) targeted:				
Spray contractor:				
Qualification:				
Herbicide likely to be used	Tick	Risk specific to herbicide	Time of year spraying likely	Application method
Metsulfuron-methyl		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to ryegrass/clover. • Soil residue 3 months. • Withholding period for livestock applies. 		
Triclopyr		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clover damage at higher rates. • Poisonous plants become more palatable to livestock. 		

Picloram/triclopyr		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to legumes and most broadleaves. • Do not apply under the root zone of desirable plants/trees. • Soil residues (approx 1-2 months for legumes). • Poisonous plants become more palatable to livestock. • Check label for withholding periods for cattle grazing. 		
Herbicide likely to be used	Tick	Risk specific to herbicide	Time of year spraying likely	Application method
Glyphosate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective. • Withholding period applies to ragwort. • Recommended to delay grazing for 3-7 days for other plants. 		
Haloxyfop		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass specific. • Soil residue effect on grasses/monocots. 		
Clopyralid		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging to clovers. • Soil residue affects some crops. • Not for use in home gardens, turf and/or composting. • Do not put lawn clippings around gardens or ornamentals. 		
Imazapyr		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residual up to 6 months. • Do not graze or use treated vegetation for stock feed. 		
Other (specify)				
Note: Spray diary to be completed on completion of spraying.	Strategies to avoid off-target effects			Tick
	Wind speed not more than 10km/h for land-based or 5km/h for aerial.			
	Apply herbicide according to label.			
	When within 100m of public amenity area or house apply spray when wind direction away from public amenity area or house.			
	When within 100m of significant sensitive vegetation (e.g. native forest/ crops) apply spray when wind direction away from that vegetation.			
	Avoid spraying when wind direction unpredictable.			
	Apply herbicide as close as possible to target plant.			
	Low drift nozzles.			
Anti foam added.				

Spray plan: Public amenity areas annual programme

Annual spray plan for spraying in public amenity areas	Date: Prepared by: Copy to:	
Locations Public amenity areas within the Waikato region. Exact locations not known but determined at the time of location of pest plants subject to management under the <i>Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan</i> . Assessment of location and sensitive areas/factors to be carried out prior to spray work and will be noted in spray diary.	Sensitive areas/factors	Detail of strategies to minimise potential effects
	Recreational area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erect warning signs/spray notices. Consider closing area to public until spraying complete and rainfast. Avoid public holidays/weekends. Consider spraying early in the morning.
	Members of public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above
	Houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify occupiers of adjacent houses if spraying within 50m.
	Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify school if spraying within 100m. Spray outside of school hours/term if possible.
	Roadsides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erect notices of spraying or ensure vehicles display signage. If footpaths are adjacent to spray area, treat as recreational area.
	Neighbouring property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify adjacent property owners/occupiers if spraying within 50m 12 hours to 3 weeks prior, or annual notice in newspaper.
	Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application of spray to be carried out in a manner that prevents contamination of waterway.
	Crops/vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application of spray to be carried out in a manner that prevents contamination of crops/non target vegetation.
Other		
Pest plants likely to be targeted:		

Contractor/person(s) likely to be spraying:		
Qualification:		
Herbicide likely to be used	Risk specific to herbicide	Time of year spraying likely
Metsulfuron-methyl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to ryegrass/clover. • Soil residue 3 months. • Withholding period for livestock applies. 	
Triclopyr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clover damage at higher rates. • Poisonous plants become more palatable to livestock. 	
Picloram/triclopyr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to legumes and most broadleaves. • Do not apply under the root zone of desirable plants/trees. • Soil residues (approx 1-2 months for legumes). • Poisonous plants become more palatable to livestock. • Check label for withholding periods for cattle grazing. 	
Glyphosate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective. • Withholding period applies to ragwort. • Recommended to delay grazing for 3-7 days for other plants. 	
Haloxypop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass specific. • Soil residues effect on grasses/monocots. 	
Clopyralid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging to clovers. • Soil residue affects some crops. • Not for use in home gardens, turf and/or composting. 	
Imazapyr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residual up to 6 months. • Do not graze or use treated vegetation for stock feed. 	
Other (specify)		

Spray Diary for pest plant control

Contractor/staff:			
Date:			
Location:	Landowner/occupier (full name):	Show warrant: Y / N	Start time:
		S112	Finish time:
			GPS used: Y / N
Spraying within 50m of property boundary: Y / N If yes, notify neighbour			
Neighbour notification:		<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Written Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Copy attached or ref #
Pest plant species:			
Number of plants:		Density:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Seedling	<input type="checkbox"/> Sapling	<input type="checkbox"/> Shrub size	<input type="checkbox"/> Tree
Survey:	Control:	<input type="checkbox"/> Knapsack	<input type="checkbox"/> Dig
Weather	Wind speed:	<input type="checkbox"/> Fine	<input type="checkbox"/> Drizzle
Herbicide (name):		HSR No.	Rate:
Herbicide (name):		HSR No.	Rate:
Additive (name):		HSR No.	Rate:
Sensitive areas:			
General comments:			
Hazard assessment done:			
Hazards specific to job:			
Hazard controls: Eliminate, isolate, minimise (E/I/M)			

Note: Where spray diaries are used, take note of the name of the person appearing in charge, i.e. who you show your warrant card to. If there is no person appearing to be in charge of the place at any time between the time of entry and the time the authorised person leaves the place, they must, as soon as is practicable upon leaving the place, give an occupier or person in charge of the place written notice stating that the place has been entered, i.e. Notice of Inspection, pursuant to section 112 Biosecurity Act 1993.

Absentee ownerships: The work should be discussed by phone and details recorded in diary/file note in a format similar to the above.







He taiao mauriora

Healthy environment

He hapori hihiri

Vibrant communities

He ōhanga pakari

Strong economy

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