



Aerial Agrichemical Application

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

Land, based application of agrichemicals is covered by a separate pamphlet.

Application of agrichemical sprays and powders

Aerial application is a permitted activity as long as you comply with the following conditions. If you cannot comply, you will need to apply for a resource consent from the Wellington Regional Council.

Conditions

- (i) The pilot must hold a current agrichemical rating (issued by the NZ Agrichemical Education Trust), and loaders and ground crew shall hold an Introductory/Standard **GROWSAFE Certificate** (issued by the NZ Agrichemical Education Trust), endorsed "Aerial Application Ground Crew".
- (ii) Spray solutions are diluted, and sprays and powders applied, strictly in accordance with the **manufacturers'** instructions and a **concentrations** not exceeding the manufacturers' label recommendations.
- (iii) 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**.
- (iv) No agrichemical sprays or powders are discharged **over** a **catchment** with surface water that is managed **for** water supply purposes as identified in any regional plan or proposed regional plan.
- (v) All practicable steps are taken to avoid release of agrichemical over other **open surface water or wetland** of one hectare or more unless the agrichemical is registered for use over water bodies.
- (vi) Written notice (either direct notification to individual properties or public notification) is given to all adjacent properties; and places of common public assembly (e.g., schools, kindergartens, offices, etc. located within 300 metres of the area to be sprayed or dusted with agrichemical powder.

Notification is to take place prior to the spraying, not less than once 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.



Notice must be in the form of a **property spray plan** and include details of:

- (a) the property or part of property to be sprayed or dusted with powder;
 - (b) the periods (likely 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.
- (vii) A **spray diary** showing how the spray plan was implemented is maintained, and available for inspection, containing:
- (a) date and time of spray/powder application;
 - (b) name and type of agrichemicals applied (including any additives);
 - (c) concentration and volume of spray/powder used;
 - (d) weather conditions (including wind speed and direction);
 - (e) how notification requirements have been met; and
 - (f) details of any abnormal situation or incident, and any action taken, including any variations to the spray plan.
- (viii) The Wellington Regional Council is notified immediately in the case of any emergency release, or accidental discharge.
- (ix) 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.

Application of solid agrichemicals

The aerial application of any **solid vertebrate pest control chemical**, listed as a "controlled pesticide" in the First Schedule of the Pesticides Act 1979 is a **controlled** activity under Rule 17 of the Regional Plan for Discharges to Land. A **resource consent** must be obtained from the Wellington Regional Council

Check out our Regional Plans at your community library, or on our web-site at www.wrc.govt.nz

For further inquiries, please call our Environment Help Desk in Wellington, Ph. (04) 384 5708, or Planning and Resources in Wairarapa, Ph. (06) 378 2484