

SPRAY DRIFT

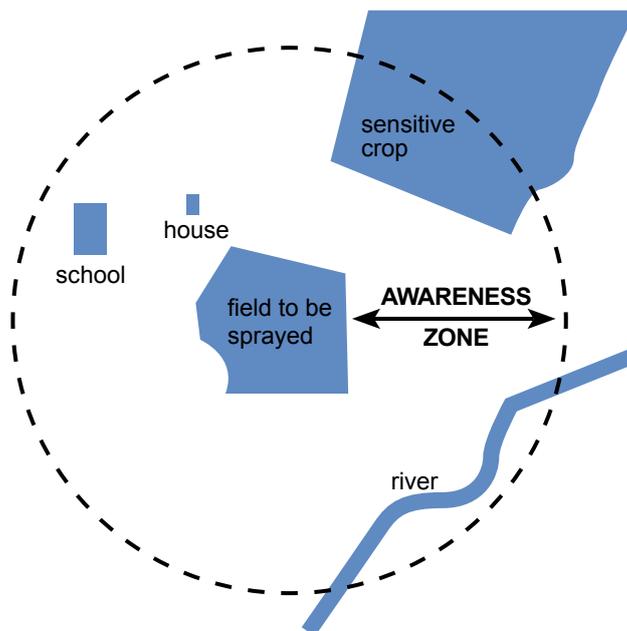
Spraying this season?
Be aware - take care this summer



Spray drift costs YOU directly in money and can impact on everyone in the community

Doing the job right will protect you and your business from:

- Causing off-target crop damage
- Losing your own non target crops and pastures
- Wasting time and money on poor applications
- Damaging community relationships
- Visiting the lawyers
- Losing potential access to particular chemicals
- Causing resistant weed development
- Harming the environment



Useful Resources

APVMA – Registered Labels, 2,4-D Information, Minor Use Permits, Spray Drift Website
www.apvma.gov.au/index.asp

NSW Dept. of Environment, Climate Change and Water 'Chemicals and Pesticides'
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/index.htm

NSW Training Requirements
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/training.htm

Decision Support
www.syngenta.com.au/start.aspx
www.spraywisecisions.com.au/
www.pestgenie.com.au/

Crop Consultants Australia Inc.
www.cropconsultants.com.au/home.html

Neighbour Notification
www.nswfarmers.org.au/policy_committees/ag_chemicals
www.cottonaustralia.com.au/toolkit/resources/Pre-Season_Neighbour_Agreement.pdf

Pesticide Application Risk Management Plan
www.cottonaustralia.com.au

Record Keeping - General
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/pestrecords.htm
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/farm
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/pesticides/pesticidesrkform.pdf

Rig selection, Nozzle Information, Spray Quality, Calibration
<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/farm/chemicals/general/spray-sense-leaflet-series>

Reducing Herbicide Drift
www.grdc.com.au/director/events/factsheets - Spray Drift Factsheet
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds/publications/factsheets/spray-drift
www2.dpi.qld.gov.au/extra/pdf/fieldcrops/sprayright2005.pdf

Susceptible Crop Awareness Map
www.cottonmap.com.au/

Weather
www.bom.gov.au/silo/
www.bom.gov.au/info/leaflets/Pesticide-Spraying.pdf

This guide has been jointly developed by the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority ('APVMA'), Cotton Australia, the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water ('DECCW'), and NSW Farmers' Association.

Safety Tips to Avoid Drift

Best Management Practices



TYPES OF DRIFT

Droplet Drift

Droplet drift is the airborne movement of liquid pesticide droplets away from the target.

Vapour Drift

Vapour drift is the airborne movement of vaporised pesticides from sprayed areas.

Before you Spray

- **Product Selection** – Have you identified your weeds correctly? Have you spoken to a specialist about the best product for your current situation? Summer weed control requirements can change rapidly!
- **The Label** – Have you read the label for this application?
- **Training** – Do you have the appropriate training and is it up to date?
- **Risk Assessment** – Do you know the locations of nearby susceptible crops and sensitive sites? These can include cotton, grapevines, orchards, tomatoes, pulse grains, legumes, oilseeds, cereals and or fodder crops, livestock, bee hives, aquaculture, organic farms, homesteads, gardens, schools, public areas, conservation areas, heritage areas, national parks, and water sources including wetlands.
- **Weather** – Suitable weather conditions for spraying is extremely important. Aim for mild temperature (less than 27°C), higher humidity, and a consistent light wind (between 3 and 15 km per hour) at the application site, blowing away from areas of risk. Spraying phenoxy herbicides in stable conditions (i.e. zero wind) increases the risk of the occurrence of off-target impacts, in any direction (see the Bureau of Meteorology 'Weather for Pesticide Spraying' Guide www.bom.gov.au/info/leaflets/Pesticide-Spraying.pdf).
- **Neighbour notification** – Have you spoken to your neighbours before spraying? This can help avoid chemical trespass and minimise misunderstandings or unnecessary conflicts.
- **Rig preparation** – Is your rig set up for spraying group I Phenoxy herbicides for summer i.e. coarse to very-coarse nozzles (see APVMA's spray drift website: www.apvma.gov.au/users/spray_drift.shtml).



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While you are Spraying

MONITOR:

- **The Weather** – Has the wind speed or direction, air temperature, or relative humidity changed at the site while you have been spraying? Don't assume that it can't change within quite a short period. We recommend using portable handheld weather monitoring units. Also, don't assume that night time is a better time to spray - herbicides will drift during stable weather conditions which are more likely to occur at night.
- **The Rig** – During the job the rig should be regularly calibrated and nozzle outputs checked.
- **The Operator** – The spray applicator is responsible for the efficient and safe operation of equipment, in order to get the best weed control job whilst not causing off-target damage. For example, are you travelling at an appropriate speed for your application? Are you aware of the increased risk of drift whilst turning?

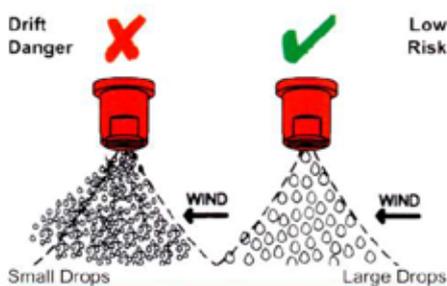


Diagram courtesy of PIRSA

After Spraying

Records – Ensure your chemical application records have been completed according to NSW Pesticide Regulation 2009.

Updated NSW Pesticides Regulation

Did you know that an updated NSW Pesticides Regulation came into effect on 1 September 2009, which increased the fines for some offences?

The two main fine changes to note are:

- The penalty notice for failing to make a record of pesticide use, has been increased to \$750 for individuals and \$1500 for corporations, in line with comparable offences under NSW environment protection legislation.
- The penalty notice for making a false or misleading statement, including false or misleading information in a record, has been increased to \$750 for individuals and \$1500 for corporations, also in line with comparable offences under NSW environment protection legislation.

Pesticides Regulation 2009 is available on the NSW Government legislation website www.legislation.nsw.gov.au