

# TOP TIPS FOR DRIFT REDUCTION

Spray drift continues to be a concern for growers and spray contractors. Nufarm's Spraywise program offers practical application advice to reduce the risk of off-target deposition on sensitive crops and areas.

For further information on Spraywise and spray application information, contact your local Nufarm Area Sales Manager at [nufarm.com.au](http://nufarm.com.au).

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inversions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DANGER – DO NOT spray when a low-level inversion exists.</li> <li>• During those inversions distinct, isolated layers of air have formed close to the ground. As a result driftable fines are not subject to dilution with the atmosphere.</li> <li>• Low-level inversions frequently form in the late evening and strengthen overnight - they are strongest near sunrise.</li> <li>• Use visual indicators such as moisture, smoke or dust to determine if a low-level inversion is present.</li> <li>• Rule of thumb: the greater the difference between daily maximum and minimum temperatures, the stronger the low-level inversion.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Night Spraying</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The advent of GPS self-steer and a desire to work within appropriate Delta Ts has seen an increasing trend towards night spraying, particularly during the summer months. Spraying at night dramatically increases the chance of applying product in adverse conditions.</li> <li>• Night spraying can strongly favour conditions that can trap and move the applied product far from the target area (see inversions). Be particularly vigilant one hour either side of sunrise.</li> <li>• Be aware that the rainfast period will be longer.</li> <li>• Obtain forecast and monitor for still or low-level inversion conditions.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wind Speed and No-Spray (Buffer) Zones</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is best to apply pesticides when the wind is blowing away from sensitive areas and crops. Wind speed must be steady between 3 km/h and 15 km/h.</li> <li>• If the wind stops blowing at night – stop spraying immediately (see Inversions).</li> <li>• Always read the product label to see if a mandatory wind speed requirement exists, or if a no-spray zone is required for any of the products you plan to use.</li> <li>• Rule of thumb: most directional wind changes in Australia will occur in an anti-clockwise direction.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spray Weather Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid calm, variable or gusty wind (calm conditions give no positive indication of droplet displacement).</li> <li>• Be aware of local topographic and convective influences on wind speed and direction.</li> <li>• At night the cool (heavier) air behaves like water and drains to lower points (waterways, frost-prone paddocks) taking any fine droplets suspended in the air with it as well.</li> <li>• Record on-site weather conditions at the start and finish of every pesticide application.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilise tools such as <a href="http://www.spraywisedecisions.com.au">www.spraywisedecisions.com.au</a> to plan the most appropriate application windows.</li> <li>• Spraying in a cotton area? Check <a href="http://www.cottonmap.com.au">www.cottonmap.com.au</a> for neighbouring fields prior to application.</li> <li>• Read the product label.</li> <li>• Communicate with neighbours.</li> <li>• Upskill by attending a Nufarm Spraywise training course or one run by specialist application consultants such as Bill Gordon, Graham Betts or Craig Day.</li> <li>• Remember the 6 Ps = Perfect Planning Prevents Poor Pesticide Performance.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boom Height/False Target</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boom height needs to be adjusted to the height of the false target (stubble height) or the height of the target – whichever is greater.</li> <li>• Keep boom height to a minimum (ie 50cm above target/false target for 110o nozzles at 50cm nozzle spacing).</li> <li>• Increasing the boom height from 50cm to 100cm increases drift 4 times.</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spray Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A COARSE to VERY COARSE spray quality must be used when applying 2,4-D products – EXTREMELY COARSE may be warranted if night spraying.</li> <li>• Choose the nozzle producing the coarsest spray quality without compromising efficacy. Refer to Nufarm's Boom Spray Application Guide for a full range of recommended water rates and spray qualities for all Nufarm products.</li> <li>• If needed, include drift-reducing adjuvants such as LI 700®, Activator®, Bonza® or Banjo®.</li> <li>• Use nozzles at appropriate pressure: conventional nozzles 1.5-3 bar, pre-orifice nozzles 2-4 bar, Low-pressure air induction nozzles 3-5 bar, high-pressure air-induction nozzles 4-8 bar.</li> </ul>



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