

Hunter Regional Weeds Committee and Technical Team

Glyphosate Position Statement

General Statement on the Use of Herbicides

- Members of the Hunter Regional Weeds Committee (RWC) undertake weed management and control activities using the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM includes a combination of practices and control methods with the aim of preventing problems from occurring and reducing the need for pesticide intensive activities. IPM includes the use of cultural, mechanical, biological and physical methods.¹
- Pesticides are assessed and registered by the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), an independent statutory body, before they are permitted to be used in NSW.²
- Pesticides are applied in accordance with legal obligations under the Pesticides Act and best practice methodologies. These obligations include operator training and public notification processes. All activities are undertaken in accordance with Workplace Health and Safety requirements.
- Pesticides for use in each situation are determined using a matrix of determining factors. These include (but are not limited to) efficacy, environmental impact, toxicity and cost.

Specific Statement on the Use of Glyphosate

- Members of the RWC have trialled and tested and use a range of synthetic and organic alternatives to glyphosate. They include, but are not restricted to oil based products (such as pine and orange oil, nonanoic acid) and other broad spectrum herbicides (with active ingredients including eg: glufosinate-ammonium, imazipyr).
- The APVMA regularly review the toxicology of glyphosate and its use in Australia and their current stance is that registered use of glyphosate in Australia, as per label instructions, is safe. Regulators in Europe, New Zealand, Canada and the United States hold a similar view.³⁴
- The RWC supports the use of glyphosate products by members for the control of any plant for which it is registered, in the manner identified on the label or current permit.

This position paper was endorsed by the Hunter Regional Weeds Committee on March 7 2019. It was adopted by the Hunter Local Land Services Board 11 April 2019.

References & Further Information

¹ Integrated Pest Management - <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/pesticides/integrated-pest-management>

² <https://apvma.gov.au/>

³ APVMA Position - <https://apvma.gov.au/node/13891>

⁴ Canada Health Review - <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/01/statement-from-health-canada-on-glyphosate.html>