



# Glyphosate

## Safety and use



**The simple rule for safe use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals is to read and follow the label instructions.**

### WHAT IS GLYPHOSATE?

Glyphosate is a weed killer which works on a wide variety of leafy weeds. It doesn't distinguish one weed from another, and it works best after the seed has sprouted.

### GLYPHOSATE PRODUCTS IN AUSTRALIA

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) continues to monitor any new scientific information about glyphosate and we remain satisfied APVMA approved products containing glyphosate can continue to be used safely according to label directions. The APVMA's position is aligned with other international regulators and the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues, including recent comprehensive reviews of glyphosate conducted by the USA and Canada. More information can be found on our website, [apvma.gov.au/node/13891](http://apvma.gov.au/node/13891).

### WHAT ARE 'LABEL INSTRUCTIONS'?

The safe use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals requires following the label instructions.

All chemical products have instructions for safety and use on the label. The labels are there for your safety and provide practical information on how to use each product. Always read the label instructions and use only as directed.

Products containing glyphosate are safe to use in areas which will be later used by people and animals provided the label instructions are followed. The label instructions will tell you how long people or animals should avoid an area that has been treated—always follow these instructions.

### CAN LOCAL COUNCILS STILL USE GLYPHOSATE PRODUCTS?

Yes, provided the products are registered with the APVMA and used according to the label instructions.

The APVMA regulates up to the point of sale (eg through manufacture and to distribution). The decision to use a registered product in public places rests with the relevant local authority. More information about label instructions can be found on our website, [apvma.gov.au/node/11041](http://apvma.gov.au/node/11041).

### THE ROLE OF THE REGULATOR

The APVMA is the Australian Government agency responsible for agricultural and veterinary chemical product registration.

As part of Australia's collaborative regulatory system, the APVMA regulates chemical products up to the point of sale. State and territory governments are responsible for control of use after the point of retail sale.

Before a chemical product can be sold or manufactured in Australia, it must first go through scientific assessment by the APVMA to check its safety and whether it works as expected and claimed by the manufacturer. These checks are designed to protect the health and safety of people, animals and the environment. If a product meets the legislative criteria for safety and efficacy, it is registered for use in Australia.

Should you have evidence an agricultural chemical is not appropriately labelled, or contains contaminants other than those specified in the technical standard, suspected noncompliance can be reported to the APVMA Compliance and Monitoring section by emailing [compliance@apvma.gov.au](mailto:compliance@apvma.gov.au).



### MORE INFORMATION



+61 2 6770 2300



[APVMA.GOV.AU](http://APVMA.GOV.AU)



[ENQUIRIES@APVMA.GOV.AU](mailto:ENQUIRIES@APVMA.GOV.AU)

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