

## Safe Work Instruction - Herbicide Spraying

**DO NOT complete this activity unless you have been inducted in its safety aspects by an Authorised Experienced Operator or Supervisor**

This SWI may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn when mixing herbicides



High visibility clothing must worn



Protective body clothing must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



Hand protection must be worn



P2 face mask must be worn when airborne dust or fumes are created

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

#### **i** Slip, Trips, Falls

- Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
- Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces

#### **i** Other

- Exposure to hazardous chemicals
- Exposure to toxic fumes
- Injury due to operating of plant in unsuitable weather conditions

#### **i** Manual Task Injury

- Manual task injury from repetitive movements
- Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete visual plant check before operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Determine appropriate herbicide for vegetation type
- ✓ Ensure all applicable Safety Data sheets are available
- ✓ Read label thoroughly before opening containers
- ✓ Ensure appropriate spill clean-up procedure or material is on hand

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area
- ✓ Clear all bystanders from the area before commencing spraying
- ✓ Work in a well ventilated area when handling concentrate and accurately measure out the active ingredient required.
- ✓ Prepare only enough chemical for immediate use
- ✓ Ensure workers wash hands after mixing
- ✓ Spray neatly and consistently
- ✓ Ensure that only targeted vegetation is sprayed
- ✓ Clean up any spills and dispose of according to relevant Safety Data Sheets
- ✓ Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill and isolate

### ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Add any herbicide waste to the spray tank for use on the next job
- ✓ Ensure workers wash hands after spraying and before eating or drinking

- ✓ Store herbicides in their original containers in a locked and well ventilated storage area
- ✓ Complete herbicide spray records

### DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not spray if rain is predicted
- ✗ Do not spray in high wind conditions
- ✗ Do not stand in a downwind position relative to the area to be sprayed
- ✗ Do not spray at or near people or animals
- ✗ Do not syphon herbicides with your mouth
- ✗ Do not leave chemicals unattended

\*Plant in this SWI refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.