

Introduction

Clopyralid is extremely difficult to remove from water and unless very great care is taken to protect water there is a serious risk that clopyralid use will be restricted.

How to stop clopyralid getting into water

All pathways matter. Follow basic water protection advice:-

- Take care when filling and cleaning the sprayer.
- Use a 6m grass buffer strip or 5m no-spray zone adjacent to water courses.
- Correct soil management and cultivation practice in the autumn can reduce the loss of this compound to water (see 'Soil Management').
- Discuss cultivation and spray timing with your BASIS registered adviser.
- Do not apply when soils are cracked, dry or saturated.
- Manage soils and tramlines to avoid surface run-off or erosion.
- Do not apply clopyralid if heavy rainfall is expected within 48 hours of application.

How best to use the product

- Products containing clopyralid must **not** be applied during the winter. Specific dates restricting product use are on the label eg "Do not use between 31st August to 1st March"; "Application in the spring from the beginning of March". Check product label for timing advice.
- Clopyralid works best when the target weed is actively growing, therefore applying the products when the soil is cold and wet will not result in the highest levels of efficacy and could cause the compound to leach into water.
- Avoid applications when drains are flowing or are likely to flow in the near future.
- Always check the required dose with your BASIS-registered adviser.

High Risk Areas

Safeguard Zones[#] for clopyralid.

Discuss how to avoid risks to water from clopyralid with your adviser.

Reducing the risk

- Always follow the advice on the left hand side of this sheet.
- If at least 4 of the following criteria are met, then the risks to water will be significantly reduced.

- | | ✓ or X |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. There is no risk of heavy rainfall within 48 hours of application | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Field drains are not flowing and are unlikely to flow within 7 days of application | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Field slope is less than 5% (a 5% gradient is 1 metre fall in 20 metres) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The field is NOT bordered by a watercourse | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The field has a 6m grass buffer strip adjacent to water | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. There are NO field drains | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. The field has not been deep sub-soiled (below plough layer) or mole-drained within the preceding 6 months | <input type="checkbox"/> |

See the Environment Agency's "Farmers" website
bit.ly/EA_Farmers