



Best Practice Guidance Note: Application of Herbicides Using Quads.

Application of herbicides to hard and porous surfaces using quads is a frequent occurrence within amenity situations due to the efficiency they offer in spraying large areas. The Amenity Forum would urge all operators to comply with the following rules of best practice:

1. All machines should be constructed to comply with EU regulations.
2. All machines should be subject to an annual NSTS sprayer test.
3. All machines must be able to be controlled with both hands on the handlebars whilst spraying.
4. Constant forward speed should be maintained to enable accurate calibration.
5. Forward speed, whilst spraying on footpaths, should not exceed 8kph. Slower speeds may well be required after analysis by a dynamic risk assessment, in order to better protect bystanders. Even when working on roads, whilst spraying, forward speed should not exceed 12kph, to counteract any drift that can occur at higher speeds.
6. A warning beacon should be fitted and, ideally, forward and rear facing hi-visibility LED type flashers.
7. Low drift technology must be incorporated – eg: air inclusion nozzles, shrouded booms and adjustable nozzles – to minimise operator and bystander exposure.
8. Machines must be able to spot and sectionally spray. Blanket spraying is not acceptable, apart from odd areas where weed growth is overall, for example: brick set areas with a high percentage of weed growth in cracks.
9. Hand-lance should only be used when the machine is stationary. It is ok to keep the hand-lance in the foot well, for easy retrieval when the machine has stopped, but it should be secure and not able to fall off.

REMEMBER – Quads must be used SAFELY and RESPONSIBLY!

