



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Understanding Washington's Requirements for Restricted Use Herbicides in Eastern Washington

This fact sheet describes Washington State's regulations regarding the purchase and use of restricted use herbicides. It will assist weed board employees as they make recommendations to herbicides users and pesticide dealers who must determine if they can legally distribute certain herbicides.

- For **Federal Restricted Use Pesticides** (RUPs), only licensed applicators or their duly authorized agent can purchase, and they must either apply it themselves or directly supervise the application. These products are clearly identified as such on the front panel of the pesticide label, and are RUPs in any package size or quantity. (Examples are Tordon 22K and Gramoxone Extra.)
- For **State Restricted Use Pesticides** (RUPs) containing the active ingredients 2,4-D, MCPA, and/or dicamba, that are sold or purchased in quantities greater than one-gallon, only licensed applicators can purchase, and they must either apply it themselves or directly supervise the application. These products are not identified as RUPs on the pesticide labels. (Examples include Weedar 64, Hi-Dep, Amine 4, Amine 400, LV-6, Curtail, Trimec, Curtail-M, Weedmaster, Banvel, Clarity, Vanquish, Landmaster, RT Master, Vengeance, Bronate, Brox-M, and Chiptox)
- If purchased in quantities of one-gallon or less, products containing the active ingredients 2,4-D, MCPA, and/or dicamba in amine formulations, are not considered state RUPs, and can be legally purchased and applied by unlicensed people. Of the herbicides listed in the preceding paragraph some are amines available in one-gallon or smaller packages, including but not limited to Weedar 64, Hi-Dep, Amine 400, Clarity, Banvel, and Weedmaster.
- Many effective herbicides are **General Use Herbicides** that can be purchased by unlicensed people. A new selective broadleaf herbicide containing aminopyralid falls into this category and is sold under the trade name Milestone. Products containing only triclopyr, fluroxypyr, and/or clopyralid* (such as Garlon, Vista, Redeem R & P, and Transline) may also be general use herbicides. Others include some of the sulfonyl-urea herbicides registered for noxious weed control (e.g. Telar, Escort, and Cimarron). Non-selective, general use herbicides include glyphosate or sulfosate containing herbicides such as Roundup or Touchdown. These general use herbicides can be purchased and applied by unlicensed people in any quantity for noxious weed control on their own property or on property under their control.
- *Herbicides that contain the active ingredient clopyralid are **State RUPs** in some situations and not in others. (See WAC 16-228-1235) These products are restricted use if applied to cereal grains, grass grown for hay, and are prohibited from use on lawns and turf except golf courses. As with aquatic herbicides, if the labeling has both general and RUP uses, the product may be sold to an unlicensed person if the dealer writes on the invoice that the purchaser agrees to only use the product for a non-restricted use. As an example, Stinger is a RUP if used on wheat, or grass seed, but General Use if used for range, pasture, or non-crop noxious weeds.

- Herbicide products labeled for use in **aquatic sites are State RUPs** and may be sold or distributed only to licensed applicators. For applications made to water moving off of their property, private applicators also need the “Aquatic pest Control” endorsement (Q). In addition the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) may require a permit if the site is deemed “waters of the state”. The DOE can be contacted at (509) 329-3515. (The Limited and Rancher Private Applicators license now offered by the WSDA are specifically prohibited from applying aquatic herbicides)

Note: Herbicides that have combined labeling for aquatic uses and terrestrial sites may be distributed to unlicensed people for non-restricted terrestrial uses if the dealer notes on the invoice that the customer agrees to only use the product for the non-restricted use. (Examples of products with combined labeling are Weedar 64 and Rodeo.)

- Some herbicides are designated **State RUPs for the protection of groundwater**, because of their persistence, leachability, or solubility. Some of these that may be used for noxious weed control are atrazine, bromacil, diuron, metribuzin, prometon, simazine, and tebuthiuron. Only licensed applicators may purchase these herbicides and they must either apply it themselves or directly supervise the application. Trade names for a few of these products are AAtrex, Krovar I DF, Direx, Sencor, Princep, and Spike.
- Products designated as **Home & Garden** use do not require the purchaser to be licensed to buy or apply. Such herbicides include Weed-B-Gone and Roundup L&G type products that are often pre-mixed in ready-to-use formulations (RTU). Product labels need to be checked to make sure that they can be used on sites other than just gardens and landscapes. (For example, they would likely not have pasture or industrial type sites on their label.)

For additional restricted use pesticide information, refer to the General Pesticide Rules (WAC 16-228-1231 thru 1270) and the Rules Relating to Restricted Use Herbicides Statewide (WAC 16-230-600 thru 675).

**Please remind customers to always read and follow all
label directions!**

For questions contact: R. Scott Nielsen, WSDA Spokane (509) 533-2687
snielsen@agr.wa.gov

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