



Glyphosate damage to seed potato crop

SPRAYING GLYPHOSATE? WATCH OUT FOR SEED POTATO CROPS!

Guidance for farm owners and sprayer
operators on
USING GLYPHOSATE SAFELY
near sensitive seed potato crops

AVOID CROP DAMAGE LIKE THIS

Glyphosate can contaminate seed potato crops through

- ⚠ Contaminated equipment
- ⚠ Drift from nearby spraying



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Even if quantities are very low (and undetectable) this can result in very poor performance of seed in the following season.

The following tips will help **reduce contamination** - please **share** them with your **staff, neighbours** and local **contractors**; (contractors should be reputable and should provide evidence of PA certification. If possible, they should have dedicated sprayers for potatoes).

SIMPLE STEPS TO SAFE USE

- ⚠ Always follow **good wash-out** procedures using a double-rinse procedure (eg: with All Clear Extra).
- ⚠ Leave suitable **headland** of unsprayed crop (grass/cereal) or avoid planting up to fence/dyke/wall/hedge.
- ⚠ Before spraying Glyphosate within 100m of potatoes, check **wind direction**.
- ⚠ Avoid spraying herbicide when air speed at boom height >4mph (6.5km/hr); spraying any chemical inadvisable when **air speed** at boom height >6 mph (9.6 km/hr). (Visit www.hgca.com for latest guidance on low-drift spraying).
- ⚠ Check your speed - spraying at excessive speed **promotes boom bounce**, sending spray droplets higher into the air.
- ⚠ **Avoid** very hot and calm days when convection currents carry spray droplets.
- ⚠ Use **low drift nozzles** (LERAP 3* rating), especially in windy/gusty conditions.
- ⚠ Use an **anti-drift agent** based on polyacrylamide with Glyphosate, (e.g. Companion Gold).
- ⚠ Check **weather conditions** – avoid spraying in high temperatures, low relative humidity or if temperature inversion likely, eg: following clear nights.
- ⚠ Trees and hedges nearby cause **localised air currents**, especially in gusty conditions.
- ⚠ Follow appropriate “Code of **Practice** for Using Plant Protection Products”.
- ⚠ It’s a legal requirement to keep clear, up-to-date **spraying records**.



Growers of wheat and barley should read this in conjunction with HGCA Information Sheet 02 (Summer 2008) "Pre-harvest Glyphosate application to wheat and barley". (Free for levy payers). Download from www.hgca.com/publications or call HGCA Publications on **0845 245 0009**.

This is a **Potato Council publication** – helping farmers, growers and spray operators use Glyphosate near potato crops safely.
www.potato.org.uk



Potato Council and HGCA are part of the Agricultural Horticultural Development Board (AHDB)

USE PESTICIDES SAFELY - READ THE LABEL EVERY TIME