



MEDIA RELEASE
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Good Spraying Practice Reminder

Lifestyle and small block holders spraying for weeds should ensure they get a handle on the basics of safe agrichemicals use, AGCARM says.

At this time of year many lifestyle block owners will be noticing weeds, particularly thistle and docks, need to be sprayed.

Weed growth could be a particular problem this year because some parts of New Zealand have had above average rainfall.

“The key to responsible use of agrichemicals is the same whether you own a few hectares or large farm – get educated,” AGCARM chief executive Graeme Peters said.

“AGCARM recommends all small block owners get advice from local distributors, read labelling information, access freely available information on the internet, or better yet, undertake a short Growsafe course.”

Growsafe is an educational programme focused on good practice standards for agrichemical use and has a range of courses available, Mr Peters said.

“Most lifestyle block owners will have some use for chemicals and a short day-long course can be all they need to ensure they stay safe while spraying.”

Mr Peters said communicating with neighbours about spraying programmes is also vital. This also a requirement in many regional council air plans.

“You can avoid problems with your neighbours if you open up the lines of communication and explain to them what you are spraying, why you are spraying and when you are spraying.”

If they have concerns it's important to try and address them and try to find practical measures to resolve any conflicts.

“Agrichemicals can enhance our interaction with our land if used safely and considerately. I urge all land owners to take care and have a spray-safe summer.”

AGCARM is an industry association of companies which manufacture, distribute and sell products that keep animals healthy and crops thriving.

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