Propyzamide

The Voluntary Initiative
Championing Integrated Pest Management

Think Water

Introduction

Propyzamide is key to controlling grassweeds, especially blackgrass, in oilseed rape. With no known resistance, propyzamide can help manage and reduce the blackgrass burden across the rotation.

After heavy rain events however, there is a risk that propyzamide could get into surface water from field run-off or through field drains. Appropriate planning, management, and adoption of stewardship practices must be followed to reduce this risk.

How to stop propyzamide reaching water

All pathways matter. Follow basic water protection advice:-

- Take care when filling and cleaning the sprayer.
- Use 6m grass buffer strip, or 5m no-spray zone, beside water courses.
- Discuss cultivation and spray timing with your BASIS registered adviser.
- Manage soils and tramlines to avoid surface run-off or erosion.
- Do not apply when soils are cracked, dry or saturated.
- Do not apply propyzamide if heavy rainfall is expected within 48 hours of application.

How best to use the products

- Propyzamide works best when applied to cold moist soils, but this must be balanced with the need to protect water. Soils do not need to be completely saturated. Where practical, avoid use if drains are flowing or are likely to flow in the near future. Product labels state propyzamide products can only be used between 1 October and 31st January in a given growing season (except on lettuce).

Dose

- Only use the maximum rate of 840gai/ha for severe blackgrass situations. Lower dose rates of 700 - 750 gai/ ha or 500gai/ha are recommended for less severe blackgrass, other grasses and broadleaf weeds. (see product labels for details)

High Risk Areas

Safeguard Zones# for propyzamide.

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

Reducing the risk

- Always follow the advice on the left hand side of this sheet.
- If at least 5 of the following criteria are met, then the risks to water will be significantly reduced.

	✓ or ✗
1. There is no risk of heavy rainfall within 48 hours of application	☐
2. Field drains are not flowing and unlikely to flow within 7 days of application	☐
3. Field slope is less than 5% (1 metre fall in 20 metres)	☐
4. The field is NOT bordered by a watercourse	☐
5. The field has a 6m grass buffer strip adjacent to water	☐
6. There are NO field drains	☐
7. The field has NOT been deep sub-soiled (below plough layer) or mole-drained within the preceding 6 months	☐
8. The crop has been established with true minimum tillage working the top 4-6cm only or by direct drilling	☐

 # See the Environment Agencies "Farmers" page to check map: http://bit.ly/EA_Farmers

For more information on careful stewardship of propyzamide and other herbicides, visit the Think Water! campaign website at https://bit.ly/Think_Water

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