

Following in this document are the Controls and Restrictions applicable to **Speedy 250**, please read and follow the Restrictions and Controls as specified.

## CHANGES TO REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF HERBICIDES CONTAINING PARAQUAT

**Speedy 250** is a herbicide that contains 135 g/L Paraquat (and 115 g/L Diquat) as a Soluble Concentrate.

Additional controls have been imposed on the use of Paraquat containing herbicides by the New Zealand Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) which undertook a reassessment of paraquat containing substances, including **Speedy 250**, in 2019. The majority of the required changes to controls governing the use of Paraquat containing herbicides take effect from December 2020.

The additional required controls relating to the use of **Speedy 250** are:

- Paraquat containing herbicides are restricted to horticultural and agricultural use only.
- Restrictions on the per hectare rates and number of applications of paraquat that can be applied.
- Requirements on the calibration of equipment (spray droplet size) used to apply Paraquat containing herbicides and restrictions on application in windy conditions.
- Requirements for the use of Buffer zones.

With immediate effect the EPA has also set limits on the level of certain impurities in the active ingredient (tech) and a requirement to ensure formulations of Paraquat must contain both an emetic and a stenching agent. **Speedy 250** already complies with these controls.

## APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS that apply to Speedy 250 (to take effect from the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020):

### 1. USE RESTRICTIONS:

- No person can apply **Speedy 250** except for agricultural or biosecurity purposes. *The definition of Agricultural purposes include; use for agricultural and horticultural production purposes, including commercial forestry nurseries, commercial cropping systems and commercial ornamental horticulture production. It DOES NOT include forestry plantations, biosecurity purposes, amenity horticulture, and publicly accessible areas or horticulture, which would otherwise be considered domestic properties.*
- No person may use **Speedy 250** for biosecurity purposes without first obtaining permission from the EPA under section 95A of the HSNO act 1996. *Biosecurity purposes means use for operations carried out under the Biosecurity Act 1993.*
- **Speedy 250** must be under the direct control of a Certified Handler/s when handled and/or used. **Speedy 250** can only be procured by persons qualified as Certified Handlers.

### 2. MAXIMUM APPLICATION RATE RESTRICTIONS:

- Maximum allowable application rate as a single application must not exceed 4.4L/ha of **Speedy 250** (equates 600g/ha paraquat active ingredient per application).
- Maximum application rate per year as single and/or multiple applications must not exceed 4.4L/ha of **Speedy 250** in total (equates to 600g/ha paraquat active ingredient per year). *This means **Speedy 250** can be applied once a year using the maximum rate of 4.4L/ha in a single 12 month period or a reduced rate be applied more than once per year but must not exceed a combined total of 4.4L/ha in any 12 month period. e.g. 2 applications at a rate of 2.2 L/ha. NB: These restrictions do not necessarily extend to biosecurity use. Permission to use **Speedy 250** for Biosecurity purposes must first be obtained from the EPA (under section 95A of the HSNO ACT 1996.)*

### 3. STAY DROPLET SIZE REQUIREMENTS:

- Ground-based and Aerial application: Applications of **Speedy 250** must be applied using a sprayer calibration that delivers a minimum of coarse, to very coarse, droplet size of the spray plume. *Refer to the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) droplet size classification scheme (American National Standard ANSI/ASABE S572.1, March 2009) for specification of the Coarse to Very Coarse Droplet Sizes.*

#### 4. BUFFER ZONE RESTRICTIONS:

- Application of Speedy 250 requires the utilisation of down-wind buffer zones to minimise or eliminate possible off target spray drift into sensitive areas.
- Applicators of Speedy 250 must comply with the following Buffer Zones Distances as shown in the table below:

Application Method	Affected Flora/Fauna	Down-wind Buffer Zone Distances	
		Application rates of Speedy 250 at less than 2.9L/ha	Application rates of Speedy 250 at 2.9L/ha to 4.4L/ha
All ground-based applications: (excluding handheld equipment)	Aquatic Organisms	Nil	5 metres
	Non-target plants (non-threatened)	Nil	5 metres
	Non-target plants (threatened)	5 metres	5 metres
All aerial applications	Aquatic Organisms	5 metres	15 metres
	Non-target plants (non-threatened)	40 metres	40 metres
	Non-target plants (threatened)	60 metres	100 metres

*These buffer zones distances are the minimum distances required between the outer margin of a sprayed area corresponding to the closest outer margin of a sensitive area.*

#### 5. APPLICATION WEATHER (WIND) CONDITIONS:

- Do not apply **Speedy 250** when wind speeds are less than 3 km/h or more than 20 km/h as measured at the application site.

#### 6. STORAGE

- Always keep **Speedy 250** stored in a locked, secure storage facility when not in use. Store in original container, tightly closed, in a cool, dry, well ventilated place and protect from sunlight. Segregate from human and animal foodstuffs, medicines and remedies, seeds and fertilisers. Segregate from incompatible hazardous substances – Classes 1, 3, 4 and 5.

#### 7. DISPOSAL

- Dispose of **Speedy 250** by using according to the label. Otherwise dispose of waste product at an approved hazardous substances receipt facility or other local authority approved facility, or the Agrecovery chemical disposal service (0800 247 326). DO NOT contaminate ponds, waterways, stormwater systems, running drains/ditches with **Speedy 250** or used containers.

DO NOT dispose of waste or contaminated material into the sewer.

- **Containers:** Triple rinse empty containers and add rinsate to the spray tank. Apply as per the label or distribute over appropriate (safe areas) waste ground not exceeding maximum permissible per hectare rates. Recycle empty containers through the Agrecovery container recycling service (0800 247 326). Otherwise submit to an approved local authority refuse receive facility.

## 8. SPILLAGES

- Always wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) before attempting spill containment and clean-up. Wear full chemical resistant protective clothing including; coveralls, boots, full face shield, respiratory protection (using a minimum of Organic Vapour filter protection) and gloves. Isolate the area (keep people away), get assistance and Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Absorb spilt material into clay, sand, vermiculite or other suitable absorbent material. Clay and Soil offers the added advantage of deactivating the active ingredient on contact. If the spill is too large or if absorbent material is not available, try to create a dyke to stop material spreading or going into drains or waterways. Sweep up and shovel or collect recovery product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage and dispose of promptly. After spills, wash area with a detergent based solution (avoid solvents) preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material enters drains, immediately advise regional council and emergency services. Ensure appropriate disposal of recovered contaminated material, washings etc. by consulting the local authority waste management department prior to disposal.
- Thoroughly launder or discard protective clothing before storage or re-use. Advise laundry of nature of contamination when sending contaminated clothing to laundry.

## 9. HAZARDS

- The NZ EPA have classified Speedy 250 as having the following hazards:  
**Health hazards:**  
6.1A: (inhalation): Fatal if inhaled.  
6.1B: (oral): Fatal if swallowed.  
6.1B: (dermal): Fatal if absorbed through the skin.  
6.3A: Causes skin irritation.  
6.4A: Causes serious eye irritation.  
6.5B: May cause an allergic skin reaction.  
6.9A: May cause eye and organ damage from repeated oral exposure at high doses.  
*To ensure the above health hazards are mitigated, all users (including those mixing and loading and applying) must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE); chemical resistant coveralls, boots, full face shield, respiratory protection (using a minimum of Organic Vapour filter protection) and gloves.*

**Environmental hazards:**

9.1A: Very toxic to aquatic life.

9.1B: Toxic to aquatic life.

9.3A: Very toxic to terrestrial vertebrates.

9.4C: Toxic to terrestrial invertebrates.

*To ensure the environmental hazards are mitigated, the EPA have imposed controls relating to buffer zones and spray droplet sizes (as defined in the APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS section above).*

## 10. AVOIDING INGESTION

- **Speedy 250** must NEVER be transferred into food or drinks containers or into unlabelled containers and **Speedy 250** containers MUST NOT be used for any other purpose. The product must always remain in the original packaging until use or disposal.
- Always keep **Speedy 250** stored in a locked, secure storage facility. Store in original container, tightly closed, away from human and animal foodstuffs, medicines and remedies.
- Always wear a full-face shield (as well as full PPE as specified in Section 8 – HEALTH HAZARDS) when handling and mixing **Speedy 250**.
- If ingestion (of any quantity) occurs rush the patient to the Accident and Emergency Department of the nearest hospital after alerting them by telephone of the estimated arrival time so that treatment is not delayed. Do not induce vomiting. DO NOT delay the start of treatment. Take off all contaminated clothing immediately. Begin artificial respiration if the patient is not breathing. Use the mouth to nose rather than mouth to mouth technique. For advice, contact the National Poisons Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764 766) or an emergency trauma doctor immediately.
- **Treatment:** Give up to 1 litre of 15% aqueous suspension of Fuller's Earth orally or via gastric tube, together with a suitable purgative (200mL of a 20% aqueous solution of mannitol). If ingested, wash out the stomach and test urine for the presence of Paraquat. If there is severe mouth ulceration give nothing by mouth until patient's condition has improved. Give intravenous fluids only.

## 11. AVOIDING EXPOSURE

- **If contact with eyes occurs:** Immediately irrigate with copious quantities of water for at least 20 minutes. Eyelids to be held open. Urgently seek medical assistance. Arrange transport to nearest hospital or medical emergency centre.
- **If contact with Skin occurs:** Immediately take off all contaminated clothing. Thoroughly wash skin immediately with copious amounts of water followed by soap and water. If swelling, redness, blistering or irritation occurs seek immediate medical attention. Contaminated clothing should be disposed of or thoroughly laundered before reuse.
- **If Inhalation contact occurs:** Remove victim from exposure. Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Allow patient to assume most comfortable position and keep warm. Begin artificial respiration if the patient is not breathing. Use the mouth to nose rather than mouth to mouth technique. Obtain immediate medical attention.

## 12. PROTECTION OF WATER BODIES

- Always identify any water bodies before spraying **Speedy 250** and ensure adequate spray area distance observation as specified in Section 4 - BUFFER ZONE RESTRICTIONS of this document to eliminate water way contamination. Do not mix or decant **Speedy 250** in areas that have direct/indirect drainage to waterways/storm water systems.

## 13. PROTECTION OF BIRDS

- Wild and farmed/domestic birdlife must be kept away from the application and immediate adjoining areas during application. *If birdlife is likely to be present shortly after application (until weed desiccation) in the sprayed areas then methods to keep away/scare birds should be used prior to and after application of **Speedy 250** to ensure birdlife does not become exposed to **Speedy 250**.*

## 14. PROTECTION OF BEES

- **Speedy 250** is toxic to bees. *Application of **Speedy 250** must not be made to any crop, plant, tree or vegetation, or any areas that bees may frequent (including on or near beehives) or in areas where bees are foraging, either at the time of application or immediately after application until the spray fully has dried.*

## 15. DECISION TO USE

- Before deciding to use **Speedy 250** careful consideration should be given to determine its suitability for the intended weed control task. The benefits of using **Speedy 250** as a herbicide which provide sound reasoning are:
  - very fast acting desiccant,
  - broad spectrum,
  - no residual activity,
  - non-translocatable through the plant,
  - rain fast when dried,
  - highly effective against many annual weeds and grasses,
  - highly immobile on plant and soil surfaces,
  - rapid degradation in sunlight and in soil.

Reasons (drawbacks) to consider **NOT** using **Speedy 250**:

- very high toxicity,
- not effective against a range of perennial weeds and rhizomatous grasses,
- may cause damage on young trees/vines (through bark contact),
- requires very careful handling and application due to its toxicity to people, animals and ecosystems.

## 16. RECORD KEEPING

If the decision to use **Speedy 250** is made then the decision process must be documented. Users could use the above product benefits/drawbacks list as a checklist to demonstrate the determination process used.

**Speedy 250** is a **Tracked Substance** and therefore requires detailed record keeping through the whole life cycle of the product as follows:

1. The product or chemical name of the substance.
2. The date and time of procurement and each application of the substance.
3. The amount of the substance stored/applied/disposed of.
4. The location where the substance was stored/applied/disposed of.
5. If the substance is applied to air, a description of the wind speed and direction when the substance was applied.
6. The name of the worker using/handling the substance and the physical address of the worker's workplace.
7. In relation to aircraft carrying out aerial application of a substance, electronic data files that indicate locations of where the substance has been dispensed and aircraft secondary positional information (for example, geographic information system original shape files, based on global navigation satellite system data)

## **CONTACT NUMBERS**

- Hazardous Substances Emergency Response (24 hours): 0800 243 622 (0800 CHEMCALL)
- National Poisons Centre (24 hours): 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON)
- Kenso NZ: 0800 536 766 (0800 KENSO)
- Emergency Services: 111

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