

Conditions of use for products containing diuron used in sugarcane

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) commenced a review of diuron in 2002 and released its final decision on 28 November 2012. Significant changes to the use of products containing diuron in sugarcane have been made and are in effect.

'No-spray' windows for products containing diuron only

(Example: Nufarm Diuron 900 DF, Crop Care Diurex® WG, Farmoz Diuron 900 WDG)

Sugarcane-growing area	Usage rate and application method	
	Boom applied	Directed band spray – maximum 60 per cent of crop area – after cane emergence
	Up to 450 g diuron active/ha	More than 450 g, up to 1.8 kg diuron active/ha
	Certain products only (example: Nufarm Diuron 900 DF) – check label of specific products as not all products have the same registered uses	All products
Wet Tropics	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited all year
Burdekin	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited from 1 January to 29 February
Mackay – Whitsunday	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited from 1 December to 30 April
Burnett – Mary	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited from 1 November to 29 February
NSW	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited from 1 November to 30 April

'No-spray' windows for products containing both diuron and hexazinone

(Example: Dupont™ Velpar®K4™DF®, Farmoz Bobcat® Combi WG, Crop Care Barrage)

Sugarcane-growing area	Usage rate and application method			1 kg product/100 L Spot spray
	Up to 450 g diuron active/ha	1.4 to 1.8 kg diuron active/ha		
	Plant and ratoons Directed spray	Ratoons Before cane and weed emergence Boom or banded	Plant and ratoons After cane emergence Directed band spray over maximum 60 per cent of crop area	
Wet Tropics	Use anytime with paraquat	Prohibited all year	Prohibited all year	Use anytime up to a maximum of five per cent of total farm area
Burdekin		Prohibited 1 Dec – 29 Feb	Prohibited 1 Jan – 29 Feb	
Mackay - Whitsunday		Prohibited 1 Nov – 31 May	Prohibited 1 Nov – 31 May	
Burnett - Mary		Prohibited 1 Nov – 31 May	Prohibited 1 Nov – 29 Feb	
NSW		Prohibited 1 Nov – 30 April	Prohibited 1 Nov – 31 March	

Label restraints

- Do not use in water-logged areas.
- Do not apply if greater than 50 mm rainfall is expected within three days of application.
- Do not irrigate within three days of application.
- Do not apply to fields where the slope exceeds three per cent.
- Do not spot spray more than five per cent of total farm area.
- Do not apply more than once per calendar year.

Irrigation channels and drains

- Do not use in irrigation channels or drains **unless all** irrigation tailwater and rainfall can be captured and held on farm.

Spray drift restraints

- Do not apply by air.
- Do not apply with spray droplets smaller than **coarse** spray droplet size category according to nozzle manufacturer specifications that refer to the ASAE S572 Standard or the BCPC Guideline.

Users of products containing diuron **must** make an accurate written record of the details of each spray application within 24 hours following application and **keep** this record for a minimum of two years. The spray application details that must be recorded are:

1. Date with start and finish times of application.
2. Location address and paddock/s sprayed.
3. Full name of product/s used.
4. Amount of products used per hectare and number of hectares applied to.
5. Crop/situation and weed/pest.
6. Wind speed and direction during application.
7. Air temperature and relative humidity during application.
8. Nozzle brand, type, spray angle, nozzle capacity and spray system pressure measured during application.

9. Name and address of person applying the product/s. (Additional record details may be required by the State or Territory where the product/s are used).

Mandatory no-spray zone

The table below sets out the mandatory no-spray zones for situations when:

1. Terrestrial – there is non-target vegetation **downwind** from the application area.
2. Aquatic – there are aquatic and wetland areas including aquacultural ponds, surface streams and rivers **downwind** from the application area.

Application rate of active constituent (g ac/ha)	Terrestrial	Aquatic
Up to 450 g active/ha	50 m	25 m
1800 (1.8 kg active/ha)	200 m	100 m

Always read the label for the product you intend to use.