

# A GUIDE TO RESPONSIBLE HANDLING

## PQ200



## 1 – What has changed?

A recent Government review of paraquat has resulted in a number of changes regarding how PQ200 and other paraquat products are used.

These changes are being phased in, and will be in full operation by 11 December 2021.

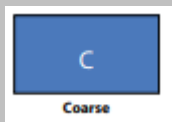
## 2 – Application restrictions

The new rules specify:

- A maximum application rate of PQ200 of 3 L/ha
- An annual maximum application rate of PQ200 of 3 L/ha in any one area
- Application method to avoid the generation of spray fines. Use nozzles and pressures to produce coarse droplet sizes for ground-based application, and coarse to very coarse droplets for aerial application (as specified by the American Society of Agricultural & Biological Engineers (ASABE) droplet size classification scheme)

### Colour Code

Colour Code for nozzle selection/spray pressures



- Do not apply when wind speeds are less than 3 km/h (or more than 20 km/h). Ideal spray conditions are a very light breeze (3 – 6 km/h)
- PQ200 can only be used for agricultural or biosecurity purposes
- Agriculture includes use for agricultural and production horticulture purposes, and includes commercial cropping, commercial forestry nurseries and ornamental horticulture, but excludes amenity horticulture in publicly accessible areas or horticulture in areas which would otherwise be considered domestic.
- Biosecurity purposes means use for operations carried out under the Biosecurity Act 1993, for which permission under section 95A of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 must be obtained

### 3 – Disposal

Product should be disposed of through normal use. If product or an unused tank mix must be disposed of, it should be sprayed onto waste land following all the precautions outlined in this guide.

Paraquat is strongly adsorbed onto soil particles, where it is biodegraded by soil microorganisms.

AgRecovery can provide a disposal service:

<https://www.agrecovery.co.nz/programmes/chemical-disposal/>

PQ200 containers can be recycled thru AgRecovery. However, they must be thoroughly triple rinsed, lids removed, and the containers punctured before drop off.

### 4 – Spillage

PQ200 is extremely toxic. Take extreme care. Always have a spill kit on site.

Wear Chemical resistant coveralls with hood tightly fitting at head, wrists and ankles (e.g., Tychem F suit), chemical resistant boots and chemical resistant gloves (e.g. nitrile, neoprene, rubber, barrier multilayer) and safety glasses or face shield.

A respirator is not strictly necessary for dealing with spills only (the smell of the product is from an ingredient added as a stenching agent to impart a bad odour - which itself is of low toxicity). However, the odour is unpleasant, and wearing a respirator (organic vapour and particulate matter) will be beneficial, particularly if dealing with larger spills and/or in an enclosed area.

(Note: A respirator is critical for preventing spray mist being inhaled when the product is being used).

Prevent further spillage, and use spill socks, sand, etc. to prevent the liquid running away.

Exclude non-essential people from the area.

Absorb spillage with inert material such as a spill kit, sand or cat litter. Collect and place in a sealable container for disposal. Wash down affected area with water and detergent. Absorb and collect washings for disposal.

Dispose of safely through commercial waste – ensure no one will come into direct contact with the waste.



## 5 – Responsible handling Information

PQ200 is extremely toxic and can be fatal. It is toxic through ingestion, skin contact and from breathing in the spray mist.

Avoid getting PQ200 on your skin. If splashed, wash off immediately.

**When pouring**, always open the second cap and puncture the foil (where provided). This allows air into the container to prevent glugging.

If the second cap is not present, or is not used, pouring out with the largest flat sides of the container being horizontal to the ground will reduce glugging.

Always replace the caps tightly.

**When mixing**, loading, applying, or entering a recently treated area, wear chemical resistant coveralls with hood tightly fitting at head, wrists and ankles (e.g., Tychem F suit), chemical resistant boots, chemical resistant gloves (e.g. nitrile, neoprene, rubber, barrier multilayer ), and eye protection.

**A respirator** (organic vapour and particulate matter) is also required unless spraying in a filtered closed cab system.



## 6 – Avoiding ingestion

Do not eat, drink or smoke during use. Wash hands thoroughly after use.

To avoid accidental ingestion, do not transfer this product into food or drinks containers, or into unlabelled container. Keep it in the original container.

**If swallowed: Rinse mouth and get to a Doctor or hospital urgently.**

**For further advice, call the Poisons Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764 766) or a Doctor immediately.**



## 7 – Protection of Nature

Downwind buffer zones are required to protect aquatic environments, birds and bees.

**Do not spray into the following distances:**

Application Method	Sensitive Receptor	Up to 2 Litres/ha	>2 - 3 Litres/ha
Ground Application (excluding use of non-motorised handheld equipment)	Aquatic organisms	Nil	5 m
	Non-target plants (non-threatened)	Nil	5 m
	Non-target plants (threatened)	5 m	5 m
Aerial application	Aquatic organisms	5 m	15 m
	Non-target plants (non-threatened)	40 m	40 m
	Non-target plants (threatened)	60 m	100 m

PQ200 should not be applied to plants in flower that are likely to be visited by bees or other insects at the time of application, immediately after application until the spray has dried, or in areas where bees are foraging.

## 8 – Further Information is available from

Orion AgriScience

0800 674 668

[www.orionagriscience.co.nz](http://www.orionagriscience.co.nz)

[enquiries@orionagriscience.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@orionagriscience.co.nz)

Call 0800 CHEMCALL (0800 243 6225) for 24 hour advice in the event of a chemical emergency



