



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

GUIDANCE

# Cross compliance: restrictions on using plant protection products (SMR 10) (2022)

Summary of the rules on using pesticides.

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# Introduction

The aim of these requirements is to ensure that plant protection products (PPPs) are used correctly, and to minimise their risk to humans, wildlife and the environment. They apply to you if these products are used on your land.

## Definition

'Plant Protection Product' are pesticides which contain an active substance or preparation containing one or more active substances, in the form in which it is supplied to the user, intended to:

- Protect plants or plant products against pest and diseases.
- Destroy weeds, undesired plants, including parts of plants.
- Influence (for example, as a growth regulator) the life processes of plants, other than as a nutrient.
- Preserve plant products, except where specific retained EC provisions on preservatives apply.

## Main requirements

- Only use PPPs with a valid authorisation or parallel trade permit.
- Meet the conditions and rules on the product label, in the authorisation, permit or in any extension of use.
- Follow good plant protection practice including the 'Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products' as amended.
- Keep records of pesticide applications; this is also an SMR4 requirement. These should include details of:

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- when – date and time applied
- where – location and size of the area treated
- what crop was being treated
- why – reason for treatment
- what product was used – including MAPP or MAFF number
- how much – product and total dressing
- weather conditions at the time of the treatment
- any other relevant information.

## Field checks

- Check that all pesticides are being used for their approved purpose, and in accordance with their labels.
- Examples of what the requirements or conditions relate to are:
  - correct product has been used on the appropriate crops and in the right situations
  - maximum individual dose has not been exceeded
  - maximum number of product applications has not been exceeded
  - product has been applied at the correct time
  - personal protective equipment is available
  - necessary withdrawal periods have been adhered to
  - safe storage (keep out of reach of children, keep in original container, protect from frost, prevent damage to the environment, etc)
  - safe disposal (triple rinse containers, add washings to sprayer at time of filling, etc).

## Good practice

In addition to the main requirements that concern Cross Compliance, to comply

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with the law you must also meet these requirements:

- Anyone who applies a professional pesticide product must hold an officially-designated specified certificate. This includes contractors.
- Pesticide application equipment, other than knapsacks and hand-helds, must have passed a test conducted by the National Sprayer Testing Scheme. Machinery must be calibrated and re-tested on a regular basis. The frequency of retesting depends on the type of machinery.
- Only spray when weather conditions are suitable to minimise the risk of spray drift. The law requires that pesticide applications are confined to the target area.

## Further information

- See [Cross compliance: useful contacts \(2022\)](#) factsheet within this pack.
- Further information on authorised and permitted products can be found on the HSE website at: [www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/)
- Further guidance on the storage of pesticides is detailed within the HSE information sheet 'Guidance on storing pesticides for farmers and other professional users', which is available at: [www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais16.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais16.pdf)
- The 'Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products' can be found at: [www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/using-pesticides/codes-of-practice/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/using-pesticides/codes-of-practice/index.htm)
- An example 'Pesticide treatment record' sheet can be found on the Welsh Government website: [gov.wales/pesticidetreatment-record](http://gov.wales/pesticidetreatment-record)
- Details of the requirements for regular inspection of pesticide application equipment can be found on the Welsh Government website: [gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-02/equipment-inspection-for-farmpesticide-users.pdf](http://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-02/equipment-inspection-for-farmpesticide-users.pdf)

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