

# SMR 10: Restrictions on the Use of Plant Protection Products



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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[www.cymru.gov.uk](http://www.cymru.gov.uk)

**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.**

## Definitions

'Plant protection product' includes pesticides. More specifically it means an active substance or a 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 EC provisions on preservatives apply.

## Main requirements

- Only use PPPs with a valid UK 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 Health and Safety Executive's 'Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products'. In 2015 this Code will be updated.
- Keep records of pesticide applications; this is also an SMR4 requirement. These should include details of:
  - 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 with the law you must also meet these requirements:

- On 26 November 2015, the "grandfather rights" exemption which allows anyone born before 31 December 1964 to use plant protection products (PPPs) without having to hold a certificate will be removed. For "grandfather rights", City and Guilds has developed a new qualification called 'Safe Use of Pesticides, replacing Grandfather Rights'. To continue to use PPPs after 26 November 2015 on your land, you will require a specified certificate either through the new qualification or via the existing Level 2 Safe Use of Pesticides. A Level 2

Safe use of Pesticide qualification is required if you work as a contractor or apply PPPs to land not owned by you or your employer.

- From 26 November 2016 if you are an owner of in-use pesticide application equipment (except knapsack and handheld sprayers) you must have your equipment inspected at regular intervals and conduct regular calibrations and technical checks of pesticide application equipment that you use.

**For further information please contact:**

Welsh Government

See 'Useful Contacts' factsheet within this pack

Further information on authorised and permitted products can be found on the Chemicals Regulation Directorate website at [www.pesticides.gov.uk/guidance/industries/pesticides/topics/databases](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/guidance/industries/pesticides/topics/databases)

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 <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais16.pdf>

Health and Safety Executive's 'Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products' [www.pesticides.gov.uk/guidance/industries/pesticides/topics/using-pesticides/codes-of-practice/codes-of-practice-home](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/guidance/industries/pesticides/topics/using-pesticides/codes-of-practice/codes-of-practice-home)