

Avoiding Spray Drift

To minimize the risk of drift, follow these guidelines:

1. Do not spray in winds above 15 km/h (9 mph).

2. Do not spray under conditions of dead calm. Dead calm conditions are often associated with temperature inversions, and the combination of these factors can result in long distance spray drift (2 km or more). Fog or dust that seems to hang in the air is a good indicator of inversions, and spraying should be avoided.]

3. Avoid using nozzle pressures above 45 psi (300 kPa).]

4. Use a minimum of 10 gallons/acre (45 L/acre) water for all herbicides unless otherwise specified - for the product.

5. Do not spray when the wind is blowing towards a nearby sensitive crop, shelterbelt, gardens or bodies of water.

6. Use amine formulations of 2,4-D or MCPA where possible. Use special care when applying volatile herbicides (e.g. ester formulations). Avoid spraying these formulations before or during hot days.

7. Ensure that the air flow from air-assist sprayers is properly calibrated to minimize drift for different crop and weed canopies.

8. Use 80° to 110° nozzles. 80° nozzles can be run 4 inch (10 cm) closer to target plants than 65° nozzles. 110° nozzles can be run 4 to 8 inch (10 to 20 cm) closer than 65° nozzles. This lowering of boom height reduces exposure of the spray droplets to the wind and results in reduced droplet drift. Special nozzles are available that create relatively large droplets and further reduce the risk of drift.

9. Consider equipping your sprayer with protective drift shrouds. A number of different designs are available that can significantly reduce drift. Note that some drift shrouds are more effective than others at reducing drift.

Spray only in favourable wind conditions