

Kylie Flood

From: Linda Osborne
Sent: Thursday, 23 January 2020 4:10 p.m.
To: Administration Requests
Subject: FW: Request under Official Information Act regarding herbicides

Hi Stefan

Thank you for your request for information relating to herbicides under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please see below Council's response in red.

Regards Linda



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From: Stefan Browning [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 20 December 2019 13:11
To: 'Steffan Browning' [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Request under Official Information Act regarding herbicides



Soil & Health Association
Healthy Soil, Healthy Food, Healthy People

Kia ora, the Chief Executive

The Soil & Health Association of New Zealand is undertaking a survey of Local Territorial Authorities on herbicide (particularly glyphosate-based herbicides) use in public places and areas controlled by Council.

Please, as a request under the Official Information Act, provide the answers to the following questions:

1. What guidelines does the Council use for the application of glyphosate-based herbicide (eg Roundup products) on Council owned land, by both council staff and contractors?
 - Chemicals must be applied in accordance with relevant manufacturers specifications
 - daily application rates are to be recorded,

- chemical control is not permitted in intertidal areas or around playgrounds,
 - chemicals are not to be used within 500 mtrs of schools ,play centres, kindergartens other early child hood centres, bus stops or community activity centres an hour before and after these facilities are in use.
 - Chemicals are not to be used when the wind speed is greater than 10km/h.
2. Does the Council limit the use of glyphosate in areas that children play? **As above**
 3. Has Council formally considered a spray-free streets and parks policy in the last 5 years? If so, what was considered and what decision was made? **No however individual property road reserves can be sign posted “spray free” should owners choose so.**
 4. Does the Council use steam weeding, hot water/foam, ‘natural’ spray products, and/or mechanical alternatives to glyphosate-based herbicides, and if so what percentage of weed control by each of the alternatives is used? **No**
 5. Does the Council or its contractors have the equipment to carry out steam, hot water/foam weeding? What is owned by Council and what by its contractors? **No**
 6. Does Council keep records of pesticides including herbicide volumes used annually, if so could these be supplied. If more comprehensive records are not maintained, what quantity of glyphosate-based herbicides does the Council and its contractors use each year on Council owned land?

For Parks and Reserves we estimate our chemical usage to be around 14L/mth. This is usually Glyphosate 510 with an mixing rate of 100:1 (a little bit stronger than their recommended rate of 115:1). We also use a little bit of Metueron as an additive but not always usually 5g/15L backpack as well as Haloxyfop where we are spraying out grasses where there is a possibility of water dispersal.

Council’s rural roads spray average 2m on each side of all roads 3 times annually. Agpro Glyphosate 510 is used, 3500L in total. A total of 3200.222km x 3 times annually.

Council’s urban sprays total of 528.482km x 3 times annually and we use Agpro Glyphosate 510, 80L total.

Drainage but non-intertidal areas in the Kaipara District sprayed 1-2 times per year. Total volume annually is 1395L

7. Does Council differentiate vegetation control methods between areas open to the public and other Council owned land? **Yes as above**

8. Does Council use glyphosate-based herbicides for aquatic and surrounds vegetation control? What other herbicides are used in aquatic and surrounds vegetation control? **Spraying is not done in an intertidal area**

9. What monitoring of herbicides residues is undertaken by Council or other agencies in public residential areas, aquifers, drinking-water source points and water supplies controlled by Council? Please supply results of all such monitoring. **Monitoring of herbicides is not undertaken in the areas mentioned above.**

Yours sincerely

Steffan Browning

Glyphosate Campaign

Soil & Health Association of New Zealand

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