

Motorized Back Pack Sprayer / Tree Fogger

Purpose:

To promote the safe use of motorized back pack sprayers and responsible use of pesticides, prevent mis-application of pesticides and possible injury to people or animals.

Safety Equipment

- disposable coveralls
- nitrile gloves
- rubber boots (CSA approved)
- goggles or full face shield
- respirator with organic chemical vapor filters (optional). Refer to Alberta Agriculture Crop Protection Manual "Blue Book" for recommendations.

Operating Safely

Motorized Backpack Sprayer with the following specifications: 14 litre capacity; hand-held blower with single nozzle mounted above blower. Trigger release mechanism on blower.

- 1) The output of the sprayer should be checked prior to use, in order to calculate the correct amount of pesticide required, to avoid waste or over-application.
- 2) Inspect the equipment for cleanliness, proper condition and function prior to use. Triple rinse tank before use to remove any residues from last use.
- 3) Read and understand pesticide label, and follow all directions.
- 4) Measure the required amount of pesticide into a clean, graduated container.
- 5) Fill the sprayer tank 1/2 full of water.
- 6) For liquid pesticide, pour appropriate volume into the spray tank and triple rinse measuring container into the sprayer tank. If a granular pesticide is used, dissolve the required amount in water, before adding it to the tank. Add the solution to the sprayer tank and triple rinse the mixing container.
- 7) Fill the remainder of the tank with the required amount of water.
- 8) Keep the work area clean by wiping up spills and washing measuring equipment.
- 9) Try to maintain a constant walking speed when spraying larger areas. This ensures even coverage and avoids wastage by overlapping areas. Walk backwards away from sprayed area to reduce exposure by eliminating the need to walk through sprayed areas.
- 10) ALWAYS remain up-wind from direction of application. This is particularly important when using an insecticidal or fungicidal solution.
- 11) A backpack sprayer will weigh approximately 40 lbs. when full. Care should be taken when donning the sprayer and during spraying, to avoid back strain.
- 12) Calculating the spray area correctly and using only the required amount of herbicide eliminates the need to dispose of unwanted, excess chemical and decreases costs.
- 13) Clean the sprayer tank by triple rinsing it with water and dispose of the rinsate in an appropriate manner by re-applying over treatment area.