

Introduction

Plant Protection Products (PPP's) are an integral component of modern, sustainable agricultural production systems. Their marketing and use in Ireland is regulated by the Pesticide Registration and Control Division (PRCD) of the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine. All PPPs and biocides that are placed on the market in Ireland must be registered. Unannounced inspections of wholesale and retail premises around the country are carried out to ensure that products being placed on the market and sold to farmers meet with legal requirements.

Enforcement at farm level initially relies on the SMR 9 component of the Cross Compliance Inspection, but inspections by officers from the PRCD may also take place as a follow-up to suspected non-compliance.

Product update

Be aware that **Bravo 500** has been re-registered with a new PCS No (03452), and now has a greatly reduced list of uses. Existing stocks of Bravo 500 (PCS No 00198) can be used at farm level until 17/05/12, but not beyond that date.

READ THE LABEL.

IPU-based products are being applied to crops at the moment. The following is a list of expired IPU-based products which are either nearing the end, or are outside of the 'use-up' window. Take note and do not use outside of the dates indicated below.

Other PPPs used in the autumn, **Firebird** and **Sumi Alpha** with the PCS Nos indicated, are also subject to the same restrictions.

Product	Active	PCS No	Last date for use
Arelon Liquid	IPU	90074	12/04/2011
Croplink IPU	IPU	03196	01/08/2011
Croplink IPU	IPU	04217	15/03/2013
Farmco Autumn Herbicide	IPU	04086	26/01/2012
Farmco IPU	IPU	04027	23/11/2011
Fieldgard	IPU	92234	21/05/2011
IPU 500	IPU	04267	25/05/2013
Javelin	IPU	90522	31/12/2011
Tolkan Liquid	IPU	92255	05/07/2011
Firebird	Flufenacet & DFF	02519	08/09/11
Sumi Alpha	Esfenvalerate	00554	08/03/11

Remember

Read the product label before using the product and familiarise yourself with application rates and directions for use. If a use on a crop is not recommended on the label, the first assumption should be that it is not legal to use on that crop. There are some exceptions for products used on minor crops where 'Off Label Approvals' may have been granted. Do not assume, without checking, that a registered product is approved for minor uses.

Only purchase the quantity of product required for the job in hand. Check with your retailer if the product is currently registered or in 'use-up', and if so, establish the last date the product can be used. Implement a strict stock control regime - use older stocks first.

Check that the product label contains a PCS No. If there is no PCS No., the product may not be registered for use in Ireland, and you could be liable for a penalty under Cross Compliance rules.

Always record the PCS No. from the product label on the day that the product is used. Do not rely on PCS Nos. recorded on invoices from merchants (these may incorrectly refer to earlier registration numbers). If you receive a penalty under SMR9 relating to incorrect PCS Nos. (following a Cross Compliance Inspection), an explanation that merchant provided an incorrect PCS No will not be deemed acceptable. It is the user's responsibility to record the correct PCS No. from the label of the product used.