



23rd August 2023

Risk Assessment Requirement in Specific Areas

National legislation (S.I. No. 155/2012) requires restricted use of plant protection products (PPP's) in specific area(s) which include:

- Areas used by the general public or vulnerable groups (amenity areas, public parks, hospitals, public schools/playgrounds).
- Areas designated as “Special Protected Areas” under the wild bird’s directive.
- Areas designated as “special areas of conservation” under habitats directive.

PPP's should not be applied in these areas without firstly:

- A risk assessment which clearly shows that their use is necessary and;
- Appropriate risk management measures have been put in place.

The following is an example template for such an assessment:

Risk Assessment
Date:
Professional User (PU) Name:
PU number:
Employer (E.g., County Council or Golf Course etc.) if applicable:
Identification of Location (Complete at least one location):
GPS Coordinates:
Address:
Eircode:
Describe the pest which needs to be controlled: (e.g., weeds, diseases and insects list names/details etc.)
Does the pest present a hazard to the public? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please outline:
Can the risk identified cause structural issues? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please outline:
Can the risk identified impede water flow or surface drainage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are there noxious weeds or invasive species present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please list:

Is the pest in sufficient numbers to warrant control? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Will the damage caused get worse if not controlled? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Will it spread to surrounding areas if not controlled? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you engaged with a Pesticide Advisor (PA)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
PA Details:
Appraisal of Control Methods – Physical, Biological & Cultural:
<i>Physical control: mechanical or hand control practices which are used mostly in weed establishment, management and control.</i>
Have all Physical controls been explored? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Brush weeder: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Hoeing: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Physical weeding: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Propane burners: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Deterrents (Kites, etc.): Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Plastic weed barriers: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Mulches: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Decorative stone: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Use of shading/ground cover plants/other: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Can physical control perform the necessary function? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, give details:
<i>Biological control: Natural enemies (predators, parasitoids and pathogens) play an important role in limiting the densities of potential pests.</i>
Have biological controls been considered as an effective control to the issue identified? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, give details:

Cultural controls: Practices which reduce pest establishment, reproduction dispersal and survival.

Have the following cultural controls been considered? Yes No

Nutrient management Soil testing (pH, nutrients, Organic Matter): Yes
No

Mixed planting/selection: Yes No

Resistant cultivars: Yes No

Physical barriers: Yes No Traps (insect traps): Yes No

Protect beneficial organisms: Yes No

Clean machinery & tools: Yes No

Other (please specify):

Having completed the risk assessment is it still necessary to apply PPP's?
Yes No

If Yes, preference should be given to use PPP which have a low risk to aquatic ecosystems, give details:

Is the appropriate personal protective equipment available and used as recommended on the PPP label? Yes No

Will the PU avoid the application of PPP when the public or animals are present in specific areas?
Yes No

Further information: www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie

I confirm that the details provided in this risk assessment are correct and the appropriate risk management measures are put in place. Yes No

Signed: _____ Date: _____