

SOP/SSOP | Spraying Pesticides | Boom Spray/Backpacks/Hand Spraying

This SOP should be used in conjunction with relevant machinery manuals and manufacturer recommendations.

Procedure Reference	Effective Date	Revision Date	Approval Date
16	7/11/2020 3:15pm	7/13/2020 1:19pm	7/13/2020 1:19pm

DO NOT use this tool unless appropriately instructed in its safe use and operation and permission to operate has been given.

COMPULSORY PPE	AS NEEDED PPE
<p>FOOT PROTECTION MUST BE WORN</p> <p>HAND PROTECTION MUST BE WORN</p> <p>PROTECTIVE CLOTHING MUST BE WORN</p> <p>EYE PROTECTION MUST BE WORN</p>	<p>RESPIRATOR MUST BE WORN</p> <p>FACE SHIELD MUST BE WORN IN THIS AREA</p> <p>APRON MUST BE WORN</p>

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Identify spray job and equipment required.
2. Make sure you have all PPE on hand.
3. Ensure that all guards on the boom spray are fitted, secure and functional.
4. Ensure that the hitch points, securing pinions and safety chains are in sound condition and connected.
5. Ensure that hydraulic rams, hoses and couplings are in sound condition and not leaking.
6. Check tractor hitch and frame for cracks.
7. Check all hoses and nozzles for leaks before any start up.
8. Make sure all electrical plugs to rig are clean.
9. Faulty equipment must not be used. Report and repair faulty machinery before use.
10. NEVER CHANGE NOZZLES FROM THOSE FITTED TO RIG WITHOUT PERMISSION.
11. Check First Aid kit and eye wash is present and complete.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Ensure all required PPE required on the pesticide label is worn while handling, mixing and applying pesticides.
2. Clean up work loading area after each fill.
3. Travel to the field at a speed no more than safe travel permits. Do not exceed 15 km per hour at any time on farm.
4. DO NOT EXCEED 40 km per hour with the boom folded and rig empty on a sealed road.
5. Once at field check the weather and fill out SPRAY LOG. If good spraying conditions proceed, if in doubt ask supervisor.
6. Regularly check, maintain and record spray boom pressures.
7. Only spray if wind is between 3-20 km per hour.
8. Do not spray with temperature over 35°C for glyphosate and 28°C for LVE hormone pesticides. Delta T should be maintained between 2°C – 10°C.
9. Always maintain a boom height of preferably 50 cm above the ground or plant canopy at all times.
10. Make sure and DO NOT SPRAY if there are livestock in the field that you are about to spray (report if there are and do not spray until they are moved).
11. SPRAY all the edges of the field FIRST and be fully aware of the paddock and terrain so there are NO MISSED AREAS.
12. Maintain spray buffers surrounding the field just in case weather changes while spraying.
13. Spray field keeping in mind all environmental factors around you. Spray at a speed that is safe for the rig and operator but do not exceed 25 km per hour spraying in field.
14. IF YOU CAN'T SPRAY AN AREA YOU MUST REPORT IT IMMEDIATLY

15. DO NOT spray outside of recommended spray pressures or rates
16. KEEP WEATHER SPRAY DATA LOG EVERY HOUR
17. At end of day rinse out the spray rig, tanks and DCI pumps.
18. Make sure all nozzles are cleaned regularly and filters cleaned daily
19. Make sure you clean your PPE at the end of day
20. Ensure that no person or equipment is endangered when operating the equipment.
21. Ensure at hand over, that the next operator is fully informed of the status of the machine and job.
22. ONLY USE spray nozzles, droplet size and minimum water volumes as stated on pesticide chemical labels.

Agricultural chemical application equipment is NOT cleaned, used for mixing, maintained, rinsed or flushed where water source(s) or the production site may become contaminated

Backflow prevention devices or other methods that do not present a risk of contamination are used when filling agricultural chemical application equipment to prevent backflow of agricultural chemicals into water sources or production site (refer to Appendix O: Examples of Backflow Prevention During Mixing of Agricultural Chemicals)

HOUSEKEEPING

1. Clean away any foreign material, debris from the engine and transmission.
2. Clean tractor and spray rig with power washer to remove spray residues.
3. Park the tractor on level ground with park brake on and remove the key.
4. Service the tractor and spray rig as per manufacturers recommended maintenance schedule

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Refer to safety data sheet for the particular chemical being sprayed

SPECIAL NOTE

NO PERSONNEL ARE TO USE THIS EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO OBTAINING:

- COMPETANCY IN THE CORRECT USE OF THE EQUIPMENT
- READING AND FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL
- READING THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
- UNDERGOING THOROUGH PRACTICAL TRAINING WHILE PROPERLY SUPERVISED
- SUPERVISOR TO SIGN OFF FOR WHEN EMPLOYEE HAS MET ALL THE CRITERIA LISTED IN THIS SOP

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