



28 November 2011

## URGENT INFORMATION: DIURON SUSPENSION

Dear Customer,

On the 28 November 2011, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) suspended the registration and labels for all agricultural chemical products containing diuron. The suspension is for a period of 4 months, ending 31 March 2012. **Modified instructions relating to the use of the product have been issued and the product must be used in accordance with these new instructions during the suspension period.**

**Reason for suspension:** Diuron has been under review by the APVMA since 2002 due to concerns about the potential impact on the environment (particularly the Great Barrier Reef) and to human health. A Preliminary Review Findings report was released for public comment in 2005. Following consideration of feedback to this report, a revised report was released in July 2011. At that stage it was the intention of the APVMA to suspend diuron, with a maximum allowable rate of 160g. ac/ha . The APVMA subsequently received 113 submissions in response to the proposed suspension - including new studies not available at the time of the 2011 assessment. The information contained in these submissions (including challenges to methodologies and assumptions used in the 2011 assessment, as well as proposed modifications to use patterns) has been taken into consideration by the APVMA. For this current suspension, the APVMA believes that maximum application rates up to 1.8kg ac/ha , in combination with extensive new restraints, allow for an appropriate risk mitigation measure which will reduce the potential for runoff.

**The APVMA have issued a permit (PER13198) to enable persons to possess, have custody of, use or otherwise deal with suspended diuron products and labels.** The permit outlines the manner in which diuron products may continue to be used, with a maximum use rate of 1.8 kg ac /ha and new restraints, during the suspension period. A copy of PER13198 is attached.

**At the time of supply and/or sale of our Diurex and Barrage products, a copy of the permit must be provided to the person taking responsibility of the product.** In addition, a copy of the new use instructions must be securely affixed to each product container. Any future supply of Diurex or Barrage by Crop Care will include the new use instructions already attached to the container. However, **all your current stocks of Diurex or Barrage must also have the new instructions attached prior to sale. Please complete the attached form to advise Crop Care of your current stock levels of Diurex and Barrage This will enable despatch of sufficient new instruction leaflets to distribution for attachment to existing stock. The form is to be faxed to Crop Care on 07 3909 2040 by 5 December 2011.**

Your timely assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.

If you have any queries please call.  
Doug Nuttall on 07 3909 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Nuttall".

DOUG NUTTALL  
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