

SPRAYER TESTING

The legal requirements included in the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD) requires all pesticide application equipment (PAE) to be tested.

1

Boom sprayers over 3 metres wide, air blast sprayers, train and aircraft sprayers

- First test due before the sprayer is 5 years old
- All sprayers over 5 years old must have been tested within the last 3 years
- Re-test every 3 years

2

Boom sprayers 3 metres and under and other types of PAE to include slug pellet applicators, micro-granular applicators, weed wipers, seed treatment and other specialist application equipment

- First test due before the machine is 5 years old
- Re-test every 6 years

3

Knapsack, handheld & pedestrian equipment

- Must be checked on a regular basis
- Make any repairs as necessary
- Keep a record of the inspection – a knapsack checklist is available from the NSTS website

Crops and Fresh Produce Assurance Scheme requirements

- Annual testing for sprayers over 3 metres incl. air blast sprayers
- Annual testing of nematicide applicators and fogging machines
- All other equipment to SUD requirements



DECISION TREE

FOR EQUIPMENT OVER 5 YEARS OLD:

SPRAYER TYPE

TRAILED, MOUNTED, SELF PROPELLED

KNAPSACK
PEDESTRIAN
HANDHELD

BOOM WIDTH

OVER 3 METRES

3 METRES AND UNDER
AND OTHER APPLICATION
EQUIPMENT*

TESTED IN THE LAST 3 YEARS?

YES

NO

YES

NO

INSPECTED
ON A
REGULAR
BASIS BY A
COMPETENT
PERSON

REPAIR
ANY FAULTS
FOUND

NEXT TEST DUE

WITHIN
3 YEARS

NOW – SPRAYER
IS OUT OF TEST

WITHIN
6 YEARS

KEEP A
RECORD

USE THE
NSTS
CHECKLIST

RE-TEST DUE

EVERY 3 YEARS

EVERY
6 YEARS

- *Slug pellet and micro-granular applicators
- *Weed wipers
- *Seed treating equipment (incl. conveyor and roller table)
- *Boat mounted and sub-surface applicators
- *Fogging, misting and smoking equipment
- *Other equipment may fall into this category

For more information

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