

 	Complete Weed Control	Revision 4
	Herbicide Application to Pavements & other Public Areas using Weed IT	Page 1 of 10

Workplace / employee details	Details of work / activities undertaken	Assessed by	Action by
The company has static premises but also has company vehicles operating from it to work on customer premises. Customer/Site: Minehead Town Council	Workers complete varying tasks dependent upon their role within the organisation and can include working on customer and their customer sites and premises.	Adam Law	Complete Weed Control
		Date	Review Date
		11 th November 2024	November 2025
Revisions 1.11.23 – Document reviewed and deemed satisfactory 11.11.24 - Document reviewed and updated			

RISK MATRIX		PROBABILITY				
SEVERITY		1 Near Impossible	2 Unlikely	3 Notable Chance	4 Likely	5 Almost Certain
	1 Insignificant	1	2	3	4	5
	2 Minor Injury	2	4	6	8	10
	3 Notable Injury	3	6	9	12	15
	4 Major Injury	4	8	12	16	20
	5 Death	5	10	15	20	25
RISK SCORE OUTCOME (Probability x Severity)						
Risk Number 1 > 8	Overall risk rating is low, standard precautions should be used					
Risk Number 9 > 12	Overall risk rating is at a medium level; extra precautions may be needed before you proceed					
Risk Number 15 +	Overall Risk rating is high, extra precautions MUST be put in place before the task continues, if nothing can be done please seek a different method of carrying out this task					

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Unloading from trailer/van and loading	Traffic / Pedestrians in Vicinity	Operator, pedestrians, customer representatives, the Public, other contractors	5	5	25	Only trained, authorised and competent persons Information, instruction, training, Park trailer/van on level surface away from fast moving traffic (off road if possible) and leave trailer secured to vehicle with vehicle and trailer brake engaged. Put on hazard lights to warn others that parked. Drive Weed IT down/up ramps slowly, being mindful of traffic and other pedestrians. Be extra vigilant if in areas where children or elderly (consider lack of awareness, immaturity, poor sight or hearing, mobility, etc) Keep others at a safe distance	2	4	8
Unloading from trailer/van and loading	Slopes leading to Weed IT turning over or becoming out of control	Operator, persons in close proximity	5	5	25	Park trailer/van on level surface away from fast moving traffic and leave trailer secured to vehicle with vehicle and trailer brake engaged. Put on hazard lights to warn others that parked. Drive Weed IT down/up ramps slowly. Only competent operators to carry out this task. Keep others at a safe distance.	2	4	8
Fuelling & other substances used for plant, machinery equipment (greases, oils and lubricants, coolant, etc)	Fumes	Operator / persons in close proximity	4	5	20	Only trained, authorised and competent persons can fuel and refuel / replenish. No smoking or naked lights. Refuel in the open air. Use approved fuel container with cap. Pour fuel / substance with care using funnel or fuel container spout. Keep others at a safe distance. Avoid breathing fumes.	1	5	5

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Fuelling & other substances used for plant, machinery equipment (greases, oils and lubricants, coolant, etc)	Spills	Operator, customer representatives, the Public, other contractors	4	3	12	<p>Only trained, authorised and competent persons can fuel and refuel / replenish.</p> <p>Use approved fuel container with cap.</p> <p>Pour fuel with care using funnel or fuel container spout. Put drip tray below and use absorbents to treat spills immediately.</p> <p>Prevent spills entering water courses and open drains.</p> <p>Emergency preparedness and training</p> <p>Remove absorbents using bag designed for waste fuel and absorbents to dispose as hazardous waste via approved waste agent.</p> <p>Use approved containers with spout and or funnels.</p> <p>Wash off any contamination from skin.</p> <p>Remove any contaminated clothing immediately.</p> <p>COSHH Assessment and manufacturers Safety Data Sheet (SDS)</p> <p>See appropriate COSHH assessment</p>	1	3	3
Fuelling & other substances used for plant, machinery equipment (greases, oils and lubricants, coolant, etc)	Fire	Operator, customer representatives, the Public, other contractors	5	4	20	<p>Only trained, authorised and competent persons can fuel and refuel / replenish.</p> <p>Information, instruction, training, supervision.</p> <p>Handle fuel and oil with care</p> <p>No smoking or naked lights</p> <p>Keep away from potential ignition source.</p> <p>Refuel in the open air.</p> <p>Use approved fuel container.</p> <p>Pour fuel with care using funnel or tube on fuel container.</p> <p>Keep others at a safe distance.</p> <p>Avoid breathing fumes.</p>	2	4	8

Initial risk
Residual risk

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	L	S	Risk rating L x S	Control measures	L	S	Risk rating L x S
Tractor maintenance	Hot machine parts	Operator, maintenance person, person in close proximity	5	3	15	Only trained, authorised and competent persons can fuel and refuel / replenish. Information, instruction, training, supervision. Wear suitable gloves. Allow machine and oils, etc to cool before work commences / draining fuel / oils, etc. Handle oil/fuel with care Wash off contamination from skin.	2	3	6
Tractor maintenance	Fuel, greases, oils and lubricants, coolant, etc	Operator, maintenance person	5	3	15	COSHH Assessment and manufacturers Safety Data Sheet (SDS) See appropriate COSHH assessment. Wear suitable gloves and use barrier cream. Allow machine to cool before work. Handle oil/fuel with care Wash off contamination from skin. See also hazards - spills, fire and fumes shown above. Good hygiene and welfare to be adopted after fuelling, greasing, lubricating, etc.	2	2	4
Sprayer maintenance	Pressurised liquids and hazardous substances	Operator, persons in close proximity	5	3	15	Only trained, authorised and competent persons to complete maintenance. Information, instruction, training, supervision including emergency preparedness procedure. Ensure sprayer system is switched off and de-pressurised prior to working on it. Wear suitable PPE as per COSHH, SDS and environment. Park tractor on level surface and suitably support sprayer head (able to take the weight) so that it cannot move or topple / collapse if needing to work underneath. Clean sprayer head prior to major work See appropriate COSHH assessment / SDS. Keep others at a safe distance	2	3	6

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Site work	Slips, trips, and falls	Operator. customer representatives , the Public, other contractors	5	3	15	Inspect site prior to work and do not work in any areas where risks cannot be controlled to an acceptable level. Wear suitable slip resistant footwear. Keep work area tidy. Progress with care, do not run. Stop work if weather/light deteriorates and creates significant risks.	2	3	6
Site work	Adverse weather	Operator, persons in close proximity	4	1	4	Wear suitable PPE, RPE, clothing and footwear always (chemical resistant wet weather or chemical resistant disposable) ensuring all parts of the body are covered (eyes, arms, torso, legs, hands, face, hair, feet) even in hot weather. Stop work if weather deteriorates and creates significant risks. Drink plenty of water.	2	1	2
Operation	Hazardous substance	Operator, persons in close proximity	4	4	16	Spray nozzles are shrouded and spraying restricted only to where there are weeds present. Kerb and side jets controlled by foot operated switches. See appropriate COSHH assessment. Always wear appropriate PPE as per COSHH, SDS and environment. Operate spraying equipment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Handheld lance may only be used when this will not create significant additional risk. Stop and discontinue operation if weather changes to cause significant risks. Do not carry concentrate on tractor. Immediately clean up spillage or splashes and dispose of properly. Keep others at a safe distance, stop if approached closer than 3m. No smoking during maintenance and operation Remove any heat or ignition sources from the work area. Thoroughly clean spraying equipment and tractor prior to start of any maintenance or repair work	2	4	8

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Operation	Exhaust fumes	Operator, persons in close proximity	4	2	8	Run tractor outdoors and in well-ventilated area only. Maintain tractor in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. See also maintenance and fuelling above.	2	2	4
Operation	Collision - Pedestrians and other pavement users	Operator, pedestrians, the Public, others in close proximity	4	5	20	Only trained, authorised and competent persons to complete maintenance. Information, instruction, training, supervision including emergency preparedness procedure. On private/self-contained site ensure staff and others have been informed of operation in advance and use warning signs or notices on day of spraying Max. forward speed 8 kph when operating on busy occupied pavements and 10kph at other times. Spray at times when fewest people are about. Tractor to carry flashing warning beacon. Operator to maintain high level of awareness of the presence or proximity of others at all times. Use horn to warn others of approach. Stop and discontinue operation if the numbers, presence and proximity of others pose significant risks. Face forward and position lance/kerb jet with minimal direct sighting Maintain high level of anticipation of actions of pedestrians, motorists, children and animals. Slow to 4kph or less when passing blind gateways, entrances, corners, etc. and warn of advancement using horn. Maintain high awareness of what is happening behind sprayer.	1	5	5

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Operation Use of hand held lance for applying herbicide to kerbsides or back edge of footway.	Collision - Pedestrians and other pavement users	Operator, pedestrians, the Public, others in close proximity	4	5	20	When needing to apply herbicide to weeds at the edge of the footway (back edge or kerb) the operator will normally use the foot-operated side jets. Only where these cannot safely or effectively treat the weed(s) will the operator use the hand lance. When using the hand lance, the operator must slow to 4 kph max., face forward, leaning as little as possible and position lance/kerb jet with minimal direct sighting (keeping their main view forwards). The spray nozzle must be kept as close as possible to the target weed(s) consistent with the nozzle's normal spray pattern and the lance must remain under the full control of the operator at all times. When the vehicle is in motion all parts of the operator's body must remain within the outer limits of the tractor unit at all times. If the operator needs to lean further in order to reach more distant areas with the sprayer hand lance, they must first stop the vehicle and apply the parking brake. In such circumstances where weeds are difficult to reach safely the operator must stop the tractor, apply the parking brake, dismount and use the hand lance as a pedestrian operator	1	5	5

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Operating Weed IT	Collision or Tipping Over - uneven surfaces, kerbs, surface type and condition, street furniture, stationery and moving vehicles	Operator, persons in close proximity	5	5	25	<p>Only trained, authorised and competent persons to operate. Information, instruction, training, supervision including emergency preparedness procedure.</p> <p>Operator must not drive if under the influence of alcohol/drugs or prescribed medicines, if feeling unwell or excessively tired</p> <p>Operate at times when presence of stationary and/or moving traffic is at a minimum.</p> <p>Where pavement surface and layout are unfamiliar inspect route prior to operation using signs to warn others of work where possible.</p> <p>Avoid areas of significant risk.</p> <p>Ensure tyres are in good condition and at correct pressure.</p> <p>Roll over protection to be in place at all times.</p> <p>Operator should remain seated at all times during spraying.</p> <p>Seat belt to be worn at all times.</p> <p>Drive at safe speed appropriate to pavement surface, its condition, load, traffic conditions and personal capability.</p> <p>Drive in accordance with manufacturers' instructions</p> <p>Max. forward speeds in public areas:</p> <p>6 kph on occupied pavements</p> <p>10 kph in all other situations</p>	1	5	5
Parking Weed IT during breaks and re-filling	Unauthorised use	Operator, persons in close proximity	4	5	20	<p>Park in safe place with parking brake on and gears/drive in neutral</p> <p>Ensure sprayer system is switched off.</p> <p>Keep tractor and associated equipment under supervision.</p> <p>Remove ignition key.</p>	1	5	5

Activity	Hazard	People in danger	Initial risk			Control measures	Residual risk		
			L	S	Risk rating L x S		L	S	Risk rating L x S
Knapsack spraying on site	Spread of COVID-19 virus amongst employees	Office staff / site staff / the Public / visitors / other contractors / customer representatives	5	5	25	<p>Measures which are known to help prevent the spread and which can be adopted whenever necessary include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washing hands frequently, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. • Washing hands going into work, after sneezing or coughing, after going to the toilet, when getting home, regularly during the day and especially if touching surfaces. • Where there is no access to soap and water, hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol based) will be put in place and must be used frequently. • Avoid staff touching their eyes, nose or mouth with their hands. • Insisting staff cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough and sneeze or using the crook of their elbow if a tissue is not available. • Wearing face protection (face masks). • Disposing of used tissues immediately in the bin and then washing their hands/sanitizing. • Avoiding close contact between people (social distancing) and where possible keeping this distance between them to a minimum of 2 metres. • Working from home, where potential to spread through symptoms. • Asking staff to abide by current government guidelines. • Cleaning and disinfecting frequently, any objects which are touched and also surfaces such as door handles, kitchen equipment and surfaces, toilet facilities. 	2	5	10

Dynamic Risk

Dynamic Risk			Initial risk			Residual risk			
Activity	Hazard	People in danger	L	S	Risk rating L x S	Control measures	L	S	Risk rating LxS

Assessment provided by: *Carl Alty*

Date: 4 March 2025

Assessment accepted by:

Date: