

# What I did on my Holidays

By Paul Martin, Director, Rainbow & Brown

## **Waited for the Summer**

And it never came. But then, in late January, just as we had given up all hope and were about to put out the cat and switch off the lights, Summer finally arrived. Disgracefully late and with no excuse. Plus lipstick on its collar and smelling strongly of breath mints. Let's just hope that this Indian Summer has the decency to stick around long enough to bring us a good Autumn at least.

## **Fretted about Private Property Rights**

And foreshores and lakebeds. And "right-to-roam" Prime Ministers giving access across private farmland to anyone with a beard, sandals and a goofy hat. As it happens, I live on a lake and my land ends at the water (there is no Queen's chain; I have riparian rights). Yet just recently we have been abused several times when asking strangers to stop walking across our land. They all ranted about public access. One even shouted something about a "Boutros-Boutros Clark", but I may have misheard that remark. My thinking is that you can say all you like about the great kiwi love of the outdoors, but if you confiscate, suspend or diminish private property rights, you're headed straight down the path recently trod by Zimbabwe.

## **Dozed off reading the HSNO Act**

That's Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO). Administered by the Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA). Welcome to Wellington's Wonderful World of Alphabet

Soup (WWWAS)! However, some of this stuff does affect us, and it affects you as well, so in this Newsletter we have tried to explain the relevant bits.

## **Saw some golf & cricket**

Golf at the Australian Open in Sydney. In the flesh, these guys are so good it makes me wonder what the game is that I've been playing all this time. Cricket on TV, watching NZ go close against Australia, and then Australia flog everyone else.

## **Tried to fix our Spray Marker Dye**

This should be the simplest product we've developed, but it's still not working properly! Looks like we will have to go right back to scratch and start over. I hope to have a result by next newsletter (but didn't I say that last time?).

## **Worked on new products**

There will be more Rainbow & Brown products in Autumn and in Spring. And unlike the damned marker dye, they work just fine!

## **Complained about increasing costs**

Raw materials and freight have both gone up. What is wrong with these people; don't they know that you and I have to make a living too? Alas, this has meant a small rise in the price of glyphosate (see inside).

And that's about it. It's all I can remember, anyway. Hope your festive season was just as thrilling as mine, and that both of us have a great 2005!



## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

**Everything you didn't want to know about the HSNO Act**

plus ...  
How Does it Affect You?

**MSF600 Gorse & Brushweed Spray:**

- \* Frequently Asked Questions
- \* Cost per hectare

**Wetter/ Penetrants:**

Which one do I use, and how much?

**Glyphosate:**

- \* The world's most popular herbicide.
- \* New prices from March 2005

**NEW PRICES**  
from Feb 2005

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Scandal, Rumour, Sports & Weather.

# YES, WE HAVE HSNO BANANAS!

## *You must have heard about HSNO and ERMA by now?*

HSNO is the Act and ERMA is the people, and both are telling us what to do about herbicides (and other hazardous substances). ERMA say that the HSNO Act simplifies and draws together all of the previous laws and regulations and so forth under one banner.

Of course, government agencies always say that stuff; they learned it from Sir Humphrey in the TV series “Yes Minister”. What it actually means is that “*we have made a lot of new rules, which created a lot of new forms, so of course we had to employ a lot more new bureaucrats to process them*”.

The HSNO Act covers sale, transport, use, storage, disposal and a whole lot more relating to hazardous substances.

**In this newsletter I intend to just give a brief summary of the rules relating to the purchase and use of herbicides, and in particular those sold by Rainbow & Brown.**

For information about other aspects of the Act and what your responsibilities are, go to the ERMA website ([www.erma.govt.nz](http://www.erma.govt.nz)). It is a predictably awful website; hard to search and hard to navigate, but the information is all there if you look long enough. Pack sandwiches and a strong beverage before starting.

Now, what do you need to know right now to buy and use herbicides? There are two new terms you need to understand; **Approved Handler**, and **Tracking**.

## **Approved Handler**

Many herbicides must be under the control of an Approved Handler. You can find a list on the ERMA website, but it's best to look up any specific herbicide that you want to use. Approved Handlers are people who have been certified to have the necessary knowledge of the HSNO Act and of the controls relating to the herbicides they wish to handle or use. ERMA thinks that all farmers will probably need to become Approved Handlers (but don't panic yet; see the *NOTE* below).

Some herbicides require an Approved Handler only in particular circumstances; when they are applied as follows:

- a. *Commercially* (i.e. by a contractor), or
- b. In a *wide dispersive manner* (which means aerial or boom spray operations over a wide area), or
- c. Directly onto or over a body of *water*.

*MSF600* is one of those herbicides. So if you are spraying it yourself by handgun, etc, you are NOT required to be an Approved Handler.

*Glyphosate* does not require an Approved Handler certificate under any circumstances.

## **Tracking**

Some particularly hazardous herbicides require Tracking. This is a strict control that documents and records the sale, possession, transport, storage, use and disposal of the substance.

It is only when purchasing those “Tracking” herbicides that you are required to produce an Approved Handler certificate.

Rainbow & Brown has no products that require Tracking controls, so we don't need to see an Approved Handler certificate from anyone.

### SUMMARY

YOU DO **NOT** NEED AN APPROVED HANDLER CERTIFICATE TO PURCHASE EITHER MSF600 OR GLYPHOSATE HERBICIDES.

YOU DO **NOT** NEED AN APPROVED HANDLER CERTIFICATE TO APPLY GLYPHOSATE IN **ANY** CIRCUMSTANCES.

YOU DO **NOT** NEED AN APPROVED HANDLER CERTIFICATE TO APPLY MSF600, **UNLESS** YOU ARE A CONTRACTOR, OR ARE APPLYING OVER A WIDE AREA BY AERIAL OR BOOM SPRAY, OR APPLYING OVER WATER.

**NOTE:** Persons wanting to be certified Approved Handlers, if they have been safely and legally handling the relevant hazardous substances for at least two years, can temporarily certify themselves using the Transitional Approved Handler Declaration Form from the ERMA website. You don't have to send this form to anyone; just fill it out & keep it to produce if you want to purchase a Tracking herbicide, or to an enforcement officer on demand. (I can't find a definition of an enforcement officer on ERMA's website – a bearded bloke with grey shoes and a clipboard would be my guess). This form will last until 31 December 2006, by which time you must have obtained full Approved Handler qualification from a Test Certifier (also listed, you guessed it, on the ERMA website).

# Glyphosate Price Rise

Raw material costs and freight increases have forced a modest increase in our glyphosate price.

## “Why Wasn’t I Told?”

Good point, that. No-one likes to be told about a price increase when they could have bought it yesterday at the old price, if only they’d known. So we are giving some last minute warning ...

**The new glyphosate prices listed in this newsletter will commence on 1st March 2005.**

## Glyphosate

Glyphosate is the world’s most popular herbicide. Safe to use, fast-acting, non-toxic, and economical. No residual effect in the soil. Only two days withholding period for grazing and for drilling new seed. Contains 360g/litre active glyphosate. Use at 1L per 100L for general spraying, and at 3 – 5L per hectare for most pasture renewal situations. Glyphosate prices including GST and delivery are:



- 5L pack .....\$65**
- 10L pack .....\$95**
- 20L (ctn of 4 x 5L) \$155**
- 100L (5 x ctns) .....\$725**
- 200L drum .....\$1250**

## MSF600 Gorse & Brushweed Spray



### Frequently asked questions:

*Q. Why does it take so long for the brushweed to die?*

A. Metsulfuron does not poison the plant, it simply stops new growth. After a time (up to 10-12 weeks) the plant begins to die. It soon becomes totally desiccated and disintegrates.

*Q. Does it damage the grass?*

A. It is hard on ryegrass, and at gorse application rates will remove clover from the sward entirely. Browntop and native grasses are not normally affected. The susceptible pasture species can be re-established after 3 – 5 months.

*Q. What’s the story with solubility?*

A. MSF600 is a highly water-soluble granule. Our customers, including a number of professional aerial spray contractors, report no solubility problems at all.

*Q. What species will it kill?*

A. Gorse, manuka, matagouri, barberry, blackberry, bracken, broom, fennel, hawthorn, horehound, inkweed, privet, briar, tauhinu, tutu, wild ginger and willows.

*Q. How does the price compare to an A\*\*\*\*\*r Pack?*

Answer. A full A\*\*\*\*\*r Pack costs about \$1175. The equivalent amount of MSF600 is 1.5kg, plus 10L of SuperWetter, for a total cost of \$795. You save \$380 (33%).

Prices for MSF600 Gorse & Brushweed Spray, incl GST & delivery, are:

- 200g pack . \$90**
- 500g pack.. \$195**
- 1kg pack .... \$350**
- 2kg pack.... \$660 (i.e. \$330 per kg)**
- 4kg pack.... \$1200 (i.e. \$300 per kg)**
- 8kg or more call for a quote**

### MSF600 Calculator (aerial application)

Here are the rates per hectare plus the costs per hectare for spraying some common target species, based on spraying either 1, 5, 10 or 25 hectares:

Target Species	Rate per ha	Spray 1 ha	Spray 5 ha	Spray 10 ha	Spray 25 ha
Gorse	500g MSF600 + 2L SuperWetter in 400L water	\$255/ha	\$219/ha	\$204/ha	\$173/ha
Matagouri	170g MSF600 + 1L SuperWetter in 250L water	\$107/ha	\$87/ha	\$83/ha	\$78/ha
Manuka	300g MSF600 + 2L SuperWetter in 400L water	\$177/ha	\$159/ha	\$153/ha	\$123/ha
Blackberry	300g MSF600 + 500ml SuperWetter in 250L water	\$132/ha	\$119/ha	\$113/ha	\$89/ha
Bracken	170g MSF600 + 1.5L SuperWetter in 300L water	\$122/ha	\$100/ha	\$97/ha	\$89/ha

Cost/ha is for herbicide & wetter, incl GST & delivery, but excludes aircraft costs.

## SuperWetter

Organosilicone wetter, essential when spraying gorse and some other brushweeds with MSF600 or glyphosate. Boosts penetration, improves uptake, and reduces rain risk period. Used at 100ml per 100L for groundspraying, and between 500ml and 2L per hectare aerial spraying.



- 2L...\$60**
- 5L...\$135**
- 20L...\$500**

## SprayWetter

General purpose wetter for pasture spraying and general weed spraying. Aids uptake, improves herbicide performance against hard-to kill species, and reduces rain risk. Also very effective when spraying dusty or stressed plants. Great anytime with glyphosate, and also with MSF600 whenever the organosilicone (SuperWetter) is not specified. Used at 50-100ml per 100L for groundspraying.



- 5L...\$55**

# The Back Page

## • Ordering

You can order anytime by phone, fax, e-mail or letter. If you call on the freephone number, you may at times get an answering machine. That means we're already on the phone, or doing something else. Don't be alarmed; leave your name and number, and we'll soon call you back. Or if we've already got all your details, just leave your order (with your name and phone number) on the machine.

## • Delivery

We send your order within 24 hours. Delivery will usually take between 1 and 4 days. If it hasn't arrived after that time, call us so we can track it down for you. Delivery of orders of 60 litres or less will normally be to your door, including rural delivery addresses. However, delivery of larger orders will be to the nearby freight depot or drop-off point we will arrange with you when you place your order.

## • Payment

We send your invoice by mail, the day we send your order, so you'll know when it was shipped. Payment is due on 20th following month, and you can send a cheque or use direct payment to a/c No: 123155-0066374-00. The bank account number is also on both your invoice and your statement. We send statements out in the first week of each month.

## • Referrals

If you recommend our products to a friend, and they mention you when they first order from us, we will apply a \$10 discount to your next order for \$150 or more. Word-of-mouth recommendation is the best form of advertising, and we want to show our appreciation of your faith in us.

## • Factory Hours

If you want to collect your order from our Rotorua factory, you're welcome. It's at 68A Tallyho Street. Open hours are 8.30 to 4.30, Monday to Friday.

## • Sports

This summer's most memorable sports achievements, as voted by the Rainbow & Brown panel of judges, an exclusive and expert group pictured hard at work on the front page of this newsletter:

- Bronze goes to Australia's Michael Clarke, who as ODI opening bat had an average of over 120!
- Silver goes to Russia's Marat Safin, who at the Aussie tennis open beat the apparently invincible Roger Federer.
- Gold goes to NZ's Kyle Mills, for hitting two different Aussie bowlers for 4 successive sixes at the SCG!



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