



SG Local Authority weed control survey – Integrated and Herbicide Control Measures 2019

Section A - Local Authority Operational Details

Local Authority

- | | Yes | No | Don't know |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Is your Local Authority, or those responsible for weed control on your behalf, a member of the following industry associations or schemes? | | | |
| Amenity Forum | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Amenity Assured | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PCA Invasive Weed Code | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Is your Local Authority aware of the new UK Amenity Standard (launched Feb. 2020)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. If yes, will your Local Authority require its own personnel or those responsible for weed control on your behalf, to be compliant with the UK Amenity Standard? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Section B - Integrated Weed Management Practices

An integrated approach uses both herbicide and non-herbicide techniques to suppress weeds.

In answering the following questions, are you referring to all weed management across the whole of the local authority, or just the Highways/footpaths, or just the parks, gardens and other green spaces? (Whole of LA) (Highways, footpaths only) (parks, gardens, green spaces only)

Please ensure a copy of this questionnaire is sent to an appropriate person in each department to ensure we collect weed management information for the whole of your Local Authority.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. Does your Local Authority use any non-herbicide methods for weed control? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Does your Local Authority have a policy about the integrated control of weeds? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If yes, would you be willing to share this policy with us? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If yes, please provide a link below or email a copy to us along with your survey response - | | |

6. Does your Local Authority have a formal Integrated Weed Management Plan?
- If yes, would you be willing to share this plan with us?
- If yes, please provide a link below or email a copy to us along with your survey response -

7. Are you aware of the [Defra Best Practice Guidance](#) for integrated and non-chemical amenity hard surface weed control?

Yes No

8. Are you aware of the Amenity Forum Integrated Weed Management Guidance and Template for creating an Integrated Weed Management Plan?

9. Please indicate how often the possibility of using non-herbicide methods for vegetation control (*such as those listed below*) is considered before a decision to use herbicides is made:

Always Sometimes Never

10. From the following list of non-herbicide approaches, please indicate the options used by your organisation, or by a contractor on your behalf, during 2019 (please select all that apply and rank these with **1** being the most commonly used method)

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Hand weeding | <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Mechanical weeding eg weed brushing or ripping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Cutting, strimming, flailing, mowing | <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Grazing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Hot foam or hot water/steam | <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Flame/infrared weed burner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Acid | <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Biological control/Biopesticides |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rank | Electrocution | | |

Please record below (and rank) any other non-herbicide weed control methods you use:

11. Do you assess how effective these control measures have been?

Yes No

12. If non-herbicide methods of control are used please indicate below the main reasons for their use (select all that apply and rank these in order of importance, with **1** being the most important):

- rank Public perception of spraying herbicides
- rank Reduced operator/public exposure to herbicides
- rank Environmental concern

- rank Reduction of risk to water bodies
 - rank Local authority policy to reduce herbicide use
- Other (please specify and rank below)

13 Does your local authority use other methods to reduce the need for weed control i.e. weed prevention? Yes No

If yes, please indicate which methods you use (*select all that apply*):

- Resurfacing (e.g. use of asphalt instead of slab reducing need for weed control)
- Mulching
- Identifying/mapping of priority areas requiring weed control to target control effort
- Replacing annual flower beds with perennial beds to reduce maintenance input requirements
- Drainage or soil aeration

Other (please specify below)

Section C - Pesticide Use

14 Does your Local Authority use herbicides? Yes No
 If **no**, please go to section [D](#). If **yes**, please answer the questions below

Please indicate below the reasons for your Local Authority's use of herbicides (select all that apply and rank these in order of importance, with **1** being the most important):

- rank Invasive weed control
- rank Visual appearance
- rank Protection of infrastructure
- rank Health and safety considerations

Other (please specify and rank below)

15 Does your Local Authority take steps to minimise the use of herbicides? Yes No

If yes, which criteria does your Local Authority use when taking steps to minimise the use of herbicides? (please select all that apply and rank these with **1** being the most commonly used criteria):

- rank Use weed assessments/thresholds prior to herbicide application
- rank Evaluate whether there are alternative methods of control available
- rank Take advice from a professional agronomist/advisor

- rank Assess whether the financial loss, damage or visual effect caused by the weed outweigh the cost of the herbicide application
- rank Consider using the minimum product rates or reducing the area sprayed

Please record below (and rank) any other steps you take to minimise your use of herbicides:

- 16 Please indicate the degree to which the factors listed below have influenced your organisation's decision to use herbicides rather than non-herbicides alternatives (please select the most relevant number for each factor where **1 shows little influence** and **5 shows strong influence**)

	Little influence			Strong influence	
	1	2	3	4	5
Herbicide treatment more effective than alternatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lower cost of herbicide control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Herbicide treatment has a longer lasting effect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Herbicide treatment is the easiest method	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Always used herbicide treatments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have not considered non-herbicide control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Herbicide treatment is more environmentally friendly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Follow advice from consultant or contractor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Limited availability of alternative products or techniques	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of information on alternatives products or techniques	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please record below (and rank) any other factors influencing your decision making:

- 17 Are herbicides applied by Local Authority staff or by contractor?

LA staff Contractor Both

- 18 What is the basic level of training for pesticide operators?

(eg PA1, PA2, PA3, PA4, PA6, Basis qualified, NRoSO members etc) please specify:

- 19 Are BASIS qualified staff used to advise on herbicide use?

Yes No Don't know

- 20 Do you keep records of how effective herbicide control measures have been?

21 Does your Local Authority have plans to reduce the amount of herbicides applied in the future?

If yes, please outline below how your organisation intends to achieve this?

Please record your herbicide usage for 2019 on the pages overleaf. Please record the surface types and method of application and total quantity of each product in 2019. Alternatively, you can provide records of individual applications by date.

Please note – we realise that it may be time consuming to provide the data in the required format. If it is easier to provide data in a different format, then please do so. We will then collate it into our categories on your behalf. If you have any comments or queries about the survey, please contact us on psu@sasa.gov.scot.

Form Completion Notes

- Date : Please record either the actual date or record 'total' if you are recording the total quantity of a product used in 2019
- Surface type and Method of application : Please select the most appropriate option from the drop-down lists or select other and specify the surface type or method of application
- Product : Please record the full product name complete with prefixes and suffixes
- Total quantity/ Application rate used : Please complete the total quantity used in 2019 (Litres or Kg) column or alternatively complete the application rate per unit area column for a specified date
- Area treated : Please record the total area treated and select the appropriate units
- Reason for use : Where possible please record the reason for use – use NK if this is unknown

If it is not possible to record each individual application, please select the surface types and methods of application (**Key below**) and total quantity of each product used in 2019.

KEY	SURFACE TYPES	METHOD OF APPLICATION
	AG Amenity Grass/parks	CD Controlled droplet applicator
	CA Canals	GL Herbicide glove
	CP Car Parks	GU Spray gun
	FW Forestry/Woodland	IN Stem injection
	GO Golf Course	KN Lever operated/pressurised knapsack
	GR Bowling Greens	MK Motorised knapsack
	GV Gravel	VB Vehicle mounted boom sprayer
	IV Invasive species	VL Vehicle mounted lance
	PG Playgrounds	WC Watering can
	PI Pitches/Sports Turf	WW Weed wiper
	PK Pavements/Kerbs/Paths	OT Other (please specify)
	RI Riparian	
	RO Roads	
	TS Trees/Shrubs	
	WA Open Water	
	OT Other (please specify)	

Date	Surface Type	Product	Method of application	Total Quantity used (L or KG)	Application Rate per unit area (ha or m ²)	Area treated (ha or m ²)	Reason for use
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	
	Select		Select	units	units	units	

Section D – Other Information

Could you please estimate how long it took you to complete this form?

hours

Would you like to receive notification when the report is published?

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please enter your contact details below:

Name: _____
Job Title: _____
Email address: _____
Phone number: _____

Please describe your role within the organisation (select all that apply)

- Involvement in drawing up tenders & agreements for those responsible for weed control
- Organise and supervise those responsible for carrying out weed control operations
- Organise, supervise and get involved with weed control (which may include making herbicide applications)
- Responsible for carrying out weed control operations (which may involve making herbicide applications)

If you have any comments or queries about the survey, please contact us on psu@sasa.gov.scot

Many thanks for your participation.

If you have any comments relating to any aspect of this survey or your weed control activities, please record these below.