

## TO MINIMIZE THESE RISKS

- Always follow directions.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Watch for winds and be aware of possible drift.
- Know your soil type to reduce leaching.
- Be aware of slopes and hills that may lead to runoff during heavy rains.
- Always wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) specified by the label.
- Always clean, inspect, and repair herbicide equipment before and after application.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911

In case of emergency spills:

1. Small spills, use kitty litter or other absorbent material to soak up the spill, then dispose of it according to the label.
2. Large spills, create a barrier to prevent spreading and call Guam EPA at (671) 300-4751/52/53.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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# Using Herbicide

## For Weed Control



Herbicides are pesticides designed to kill weeds. When handling any kind of herbicide consider the rule of thumb, “properly identify the weed.” After identifying the weed, the correct herbicide can then be selected. Weeds harbor pests and diseases around homes and businesses.

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF HERBICIDES

- Selective herbicide kills only the target weed stated on the label.
- Non-selective herbicide kills most weeds it comes in contact with.
- Systemic herbicide is absorbed into the weed and kills the entire plant.
- Contact herbicide only kills the plant tissue in which it comes in contact. These herbicides are applied either to the leaves or to the soil.
- Foliar herbicide is applied to the leaves of weeds.
- Soil herbicide is applied directly to the soil.
- Pre-emergent herbicide is applied before weeds emerge.
- Post-emergent herbicide is applied after weeds emerge.

## Advantages of Using Herbicides

1. Less labor
2. Saves time
3. Fast and effective (when done properly)
4. Reduces and slows weed growth
5. Reduces plants' competition for:
  - space
  - light
  - nutrients
  - water

## POSSIBLE REASONS FOR HERBICIDE FAILURE

- Misidentification of weed
- Wrong application time
- Wrong equipment calibration
- Wrong herbicide used
- Mis-sprayed the target area

## RISK INVOLVED WITH THE USE OF HERBICIDES

- Contamination of water sources by leaching into Guam's underground aquifer and runoff into the rivers and ocean.
- Poisoning of adults and children who come in contact with herbicide residue left on weeds.
- Hazardous to applicator by accidental spills and negligence.



Dying weeds affected by herbicide.



Use caution to avoid contaminating spills.

- Hazard to the environment by applying more quantity than what is stated on the label. Herbicide can accumulate within the soil and the environment resulting in herbicides absorbed into non-target food crops.
- Poisoning of pets and farm animals by picking up herbicide residue in their food or living quarters.

These hazards could be avoided if herbicides are used properly in accordance with the directions.



Always read label instructions before use.