

Bystander Information for

Katana®

Mapp No. 16162

Why is this operator spraying weeds and is weed control really necessary?

Weed control on amenity areas such as play areas, mowing margins, and shrub beds is a necessary service undertaken on behalf of local government. A good quality, consistent weed control programme is required as it reduces slip and trip hazards, potential access issues, reduces the damage caused by root growth to urban surfaces and improves aesthetic appeal. Weeds can also harbour pests and diseases

Why use Katana in a mixture with glyphosate?

Katana in a mixture with glyphosate is an efficient and cost-effective method for the broad-spectrum treatment of weeds. It combines the activity of a residual and total systemic herbicide.

Use of the mixture can reduce the amount of glyphosate applied to just one application per season in most cases. Katana can control weeds for up to eight months, so reducing strimming and mowing operations. Alternative methods (e.g. steam) don't last for long and can give an increased carbon footprint

Is it safe & how soon after application can people or pets use the area?

Yes, Katana (flazasulfuron) is classified as non-toxic for skin, ingestion, inhalation, and is non carcinogenic. It works by acting on an enzyme found in plants.

As for re-entry there is no requirement to restrict access to an area that has been treated with a mixture of Katana and glyphosate under normal usage conditions, by people, pets and wildlife. However it is recommended not to walk into areas where the spray could still be wet, as this could lead to transfer to other areas and damage to other plants and foliage.

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Are any qualifications required to use Katana plus glyphosate professionally?

UK law requires professional operators to hold at least NPTC PA1 and PA6 certifications to apply herbicides. Training covers the safe use, storage and handling of pesticides, with emphasis on techniques that apply the correct products safely.

What are the PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) requirements for using Katana plus glyphosate?

Whilst pesticide products vary in terms of their chemistry, the specific PPE requirement is always detailed on the product label. For application of diluted product (as in an amenity setting) coveralls are required. The use of engineering solutions (such as low drift nozzles) can preclude the need for gloves and further PPE

Useful links and resources

HSE "Frequently Asked Questions":

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides>

Amenity Forum (information on Best Practice in the amenity sector):

<http://www.amenityforum.co.uk>

USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE.

For further information on product hazard warnings, risk and safety phrases, consult the Belchim Crop Protection Ltd website.

Technical enquiries: 01480 403333 | www.belchim.co.uk