

## Using the Knapsack Sprayer

1. Wear all your protective equipment.
2. Only prepare just enough of the spray mix to do the planned area so that at the end of work you do not have extra chemical mix to dispose of.
3. When you fill the sprayer, follow the instructions supplied with the chemical, and the instructions from the hire company.
4. Keep the filter in the filler neck of the tank at all times.
5. First put a small amount of clean water into the tank then add the measured jug of chemical.
6. Rinse the jug by filling it with clean water and emptying it into the tank several times. This will clean the jug without contaminating anything else.
7. Now top up the tank by the normal method, always use clean water.
8. Follow the instructions on the container regarding keeping other people especially children and animals away from sprayed areas.
9. Ensure the sprayer is firmly strapped on your back before starting. You may need someone to help you to put it on. Be careful walking over rough ground with this extra weight.
10. You should use a gentle, continuous pumping action with one hand to maintain a steady spray, using the other hand to control the spray wand. Do not try to build up a high pressure first to enable you to spray without pumping.
11. Do not aim the nozzle at people or animals.
12. Be extremely careful to avoid spraying where the chemical may cause damage. Keep out of the spray drift.
13. Do not spray close to fences adjoining animal compounds. Leave at least 1m (3 feet) to prevent animals reaching through to the sprayed area.
14. Do not allow the chemical you are using to splash or spray onto fences or walls, staining or damage will result.
15. Stop work if someone approaches you.
16. Reduce the pressure in the sprayer when you plan to stop work, even for a short while. Do not stop work leaving pressure in the sprayer.
17. When you have finished clean the equipment by washing out with clean water. Follow any instructions on the container or given by the hire company.
18. Be extremely careful where you wash the knapsack sprayer. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding disposal of any contaminated wash water.
19. Do not pour corrosive or toxic liquids into drains or rivers: follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding cleaning and disposal or contact the hire company.
20. Return unmixed chemicals to your supplier for correct disposal; or store them safely and securely. Make sure the storage container label clearly states what the contents are, and any hazards.
21. Always return equipment to the hire company in a clean condition.
22. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contact the hire company.
23. You may want to read this leaflet again. Please keep it until you finish work.

**Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference**



## Knapsack Sprayer

**The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.**

### **It is important to read this entire leaflet BEFORE using the Knapsack Sprayer**

1. Pesticides and other chemicals that are used in this equipment may be hazardous. Take care not to splash yourself or others.
2. The term pesticide includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and weed killers.
3. Users may need a certificate of competence before spraying chemicals.
4. This equipment is designed to spray water based chemicals that are used to control the spread of weeds, insects and other pests. Do not use it for spraying spirit based chemicals.
5. Spraying pesticides can cause harm or damage if it is not done in a careful and controlled way.
6. If you have not used this type of equipment before, familiarise yourself with how it works and the hazards it presents before you start work.
7. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
8. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles; Dust mask – a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection; wellington boots; waterproof gloves.
9. This knapsack sprayer must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
10. This knapsack sprayer is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.



## PESTICIDE SAFETY

1. The chemicals used in this knapsack sprayer may be toxic, flammable, or both. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions written on the labels or on the containers.
2. Do not store chemicals or equipment near to food.
3. Always wash your hands whenever you remove your gloves.
4. Thoroughly wash clothes and gloves after each day's work. Do not wear contaminated clothes.
5. Wash drips or splashes off your skin immediately. Thoroughly rinse out your eyes and seek medical advice if you get any type of chemical in them.
6. Stop spraying if you feel any ill effects. Get away from the spray area. See a doctor, giving details of the chemical used.
7. Always put the caps on chemical containers to prevent accidental spillage and put the containers safely and securely away to prevent unauthorized use.
8. Legislation requires that: you must not spray in any public area unless you are trained, fully competent and authorised; if your spray area is large or if you spray regularly, you may need to keep records; you must be careful about any spraying that may harm honeybees, for example spraying in open flower season; you may need a certificate of competence to use this equipment to spray pesticides.
9. Check with the hire company if you are in any doubt about the use of this sprayer.

## Before Starting Work...



### WORK AREA

1. Warn people what you are doing. Put up barriers and warning signs to keep people and animals clear.
2. Make sure that your work area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.

### OPERATORS

1. The chemical you are using could be highly flammable. Do not smoke while working or when you are near the equipment. Keep it away from naked flames.
2. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this knapsack sprayer. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
3. You must wear goggles whenever you use this knapsack sprayer.
4. You will need to wear an appropriate dust mask to protect against spray mist.
5. You must wear wellingtons to protect your feet.
6. This equipment will leave a spray in the air around you. Wear overalls to cover arms, legs and clothing.
7. You must wear waterproof gloves all the time you are handling this equipment.
8. Put on protective equipment in the best order to prevent contamination. For example, facemask first with clean hands, then overalls.
9. Do not allow the chemical or any contaminated part of the equipment to touch any exposed part of the body.

10. Be careful not to spill any chemical on your skin or clothes. If you do, wash the affected skin immediately and thoroughly. Change any contaminated clothes.
11. If anyone has to work near to you they must wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

### KNAPSACK SPRAYER

1. Do not use spirit-based liquids in this equipment. They may dissolve the container.
2. Check all your equipment, hose, pump handle and straps. Do not use if the tank is not clean or if anything is found damaged. Contact the hire company.
3. Follow the instructions and warnings on the chemical container and any other written or verbal instructions from the hire company.
4. Do not leave the chemical, the diluted chemical or the equipment unattended unless they are in a safe and secure place.
5. Use only the equipment as supplied by the hire company, do not improvise or change any part of it.
6. Make sure you understand how the equipment works before you use the knapsack sprayer you must be aware of the potential hazards present and what precautions to take.