

Clopyralid (Lontrel)

Clopyralid is a systemic, post-emergent herbicide. It is absorbed by plants through both the roots and the leaves.

Clopyralid, is a chemical that has an auxin-like activity. That is, it disrupts cell growth. Plants affected by clopyralid show twisting of the growing tips that is typical of this class of herbicide. Clopyralid is not metabolised in plants. Tolerant plants just accept the chemical.

Lontrel is registered for the control of a wide range of broadleaf weeds in wheat, barley, oats, triticale, canola, pastures, fallow land, forests and industrial situations. The weeds controlled include; all thistles, cape ivy, Groundsel bush, knapweed, skeleton weed, and silver wattle.

Crops susceptible to clopyralid are; fruit trees, lentils, lupins, ornamentals, potatoes, tomatoes, and vines. All legumes (nitrogen fixing plants) are susceptible to clopyralid.

Product Trade Names

There are only two products registered for use in Tasmania -

Lontrel 750 SG

Lontrel

Ecological Effects

Clopyralid is –

- of low toxicity to fish and aquatic invertebrate animals;
- of low toxicity to birds and mammals; and
- not toxic to bees.

Environmental Fate

Clopyralid is quite soluble in water, and does not bind strongly to soil particles. However, field studies have shown that the potential for ground

water contamination is minimal. The major means of clopyralid degradation in the soil is by microbes. Carbon dioxide is the major product of degradation. Other degradation products have not been identified

Human Toxicity

Lontrel is unlikely to be toxic by skin absorption, ingestion or inhalation through short-term contact with spray solutions.

Based on tests conducted on laboratory animals, the following may be concluded:

- Lontrel does not interfere with the reproductive process.
- Lontrel does not appear to be teratogenic at typical exposure concentrations.
- Lontrel showed no evidence of mutagenicity.
- Lontrel showed no evidence of oncogenicity

Lontrel is classified as a Schedule 5 poison in the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons.

For further information, please contact:

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