

Use of glyphosate-based herbicides



GREAT OCEAN ROAD
COAST & PARKS AUTHORITY

Updated 30 June 2022

CURRENT USE AND POSITION

The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) is committed to reducing the use of glyphosate-based herbicides, continuing to trial alternative weed control methods where possible.

In an aim to reduce our herbicide application, we:

- have increased our use of organic herbicides
- have increased our use of selective herbicides
- use mulch as a weed suppressant where possible.

In the past we have trialled Slasher organic herbicide on Broom in Queens Park (with an approximate 80% success rate, used in conjunction with a low dose herbicide), steam weeding on periwinkle (not successful) and rust fungus on Bridal Creeper (successful for the short term, with other treatments required for effective control). We will continue to implement new strategies and participate in trials as they become available.

Glyphosate-based herbicides play a minor role in our weed management strategy. We will continue to use glyphosate-based herbicides in the maintenance and management of our coastal foreshore reserves and conservation areas where required.

Our position is in line with independent Australian regulator, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). The APVMA continues to actively monitor any new scientific information about glyphosate and remains satisfied that registered products containing glyphosate can continue to be used safely according to label instructions. They have found that glyphosate poses no carcinogenic risk to humans and that there are no grounds to place it under formal reconsideration.

User and consumer safety is our top priority when considering the use of pesticides, and our duty of care to staff, volunteers and the public is at the forefront of every decision we make.

All Authority staff and contractors are trained in the application of herbicides and have completed the relevant accredited training. All herbicides used by our staff and contractors are used in accordance with their label and product directions.

We will continue to follow all regulatory advice regarding the use of glyphosate and use alternative methods where possible.