



MAURITIUS SUGAR INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Recommendation Sheet

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HERBICIDE PARAQUAT

Paraquat is a **non-selective** contact herbicide used to control or suppress a broad spectrum of emerged weeds. Paraquat controls most small annual weeds, both broad-leaved and grasses, and suppresses perennial weeds by destroying green foliage.

Paraquat, a liquid formulation (SL), contains 276 g of paraquat dichloride as active ingredient per litre.

Recommendation

- Paraquat may be used in sugar cane, vegetable crops and non-crop land as follows:

<i>Possible uses of paraquat</i>	<i>Recommended rates</i>	
	<i>Litre / ha</i>	<i>Litre / arp</i>
In sugar cane		
- At planting (in pre-emergence of cane)	1.0 - 1.2	0.4 - 0.5
- As a directed spray (avoiding contact with cane leaves)	1.2 - 1.8	0.5 - 0.75
In vegetable crops		
- To eliminate previous crops and weeds (rotational land)	1.8 - 2.5	0.75 - 1.0
In non-crop land , e.g. field roads, rock heaps, etc.	1.8 - 3.0	0.75 - 1.25

- Higher rates should be preferred where weed infestation is severe or weeds are at an advanced stage of growth.
- Paraquat can be tank-mixed with pre-emergence herbicides, e.g. diuron, atrazine.
- A wetting agent should be added to all paraquat treatments.

Note

Paraquat is a **'restricted pesticide'** and its use is governed by conditions approved by the *Dangerous Chemical Control Board* (DCCB). **Growers need a special permit for its purchase.** Permits are delivered by:

- MSIRI for Miller/Large/Medium sugar cane growers
- FSC for small sugar cane growers
- AREU for vegetable growers

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