

22 May 2026

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Local Government Official Information Request

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy which is available on the Council's website [LGOIMA Request Policy: Rangitikei District Council](#)

Your request for information was received on 5 May 2026 and requested information about Herbicide Spraying in Public Places. Your questions and our response can be found below:

Question 1:

What herbicide or weed control products are currently used in public places?

Response:

The following products are currently used by Council contractors and Council teams for weed control activities.

Roading

- Glyphosate (Ken Up)
- Metsulfuron (Associate)
- Organomodified polydimethyl siloxane (Silken)
- Picloram/Triclopyr (Ken Zon)

Property Maintenance

- Round Up
- 30 Seconds Spray & Walkaway

Parks

- Roundup Ultra Max
- Tordon Bush Killer
- Conquest

Three Water Operations

- Round Up
- Associate 600WDG
- Anti drift

Making this place home.

Question 2:

Where are these products typically applied, and how frequently are these areas treated?

Response:**Urban Roading Areas.**

Herbicides are typically applied to:

- Kerb and channel areas
- Footpaths
- Some property boundaries where vegetation growth is present

Treatment frequency is growth-dependent, with approximately six treatment rounds per year in urban areas.

Rural roading areas

Herbicides are typically applied to:

- Roadside drains
- Culverts
- Bridges
- Around edge marker posts
- Noxious weeds including blackberry, gorse, lupin, and wilding pines

Treatment frequency is growth- dependent and generally occurs before vegetation creates a safety issue³. Typically, rural areas receive three treatment rounds per year.

Property Maintenance

Herbicides and weed control products are applied in:

- Carparks
- Council owned properties and facilities

Treatment frequency is determined by vegetation growth and maintenance requirements.

Parks

- Parks and Reserves
- Sports Fields
- Urban berms throughout, Bulls, Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape.

Application frequency for Roundup and conquest is growth dependant, typically every 8-10 weeks

Application frequency of Tordon is typically 2 times per year on Sports Fields.

Question 3:

What policies or guidelines govern herbicide use in public places?

Response:

Herbicide is governed primarily by:

- Standards New Zealand NZS 8409:2021 – Management of Agrichemicals.

- Relevant contractor and subcontractor agreements, including the 2025 Roding subcontractor agreement
- Growsafe Training Manual Version 8.0 No. STD/14475
- Safety Data sheets for individual herbicides.

Question 4:

When was the current approach to herbicide use in public space last formally reviewed?

Response:

The applicable standard, NZS 8409:2021 Management of Agrichemicals, was reviewed during the 2019-2021 period prior to publication.

Council's current operational approach is also reflected in relevant contractor agreements, including the 2025 subcontractor agreement for roading maintenance activities.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at [RDC Official Information - Proactive Release](#) with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to email lgoima@rangitikei.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

LGOIMA Officer
Rangitikei District Council