



Key challenges and issues for the Amenity Sector

**Mark De Ath – Operations Director Headland
Amenity Ltd on behalf of the Amenity Forum**



Today's Presentation

- **The Amenity Forum** – What is it and what it does
- **Pesticide Regulations** – Defining the process, checks & balances
- **Key Policy Drivers** - Sustainable Use Directive & WFD
- **Invasive Weeds** - What species & control methods
- **Conclusions**



**The Amenity Forum is the collective body
representing the Amenity industry
in relation to pesticide use**

We receive no direct financial support from the Government although some in kind

Our principal funding derives from membership subscriptions

With additional finance from external activities such as our annual conference

<http://www.amenityforum.co.uk>



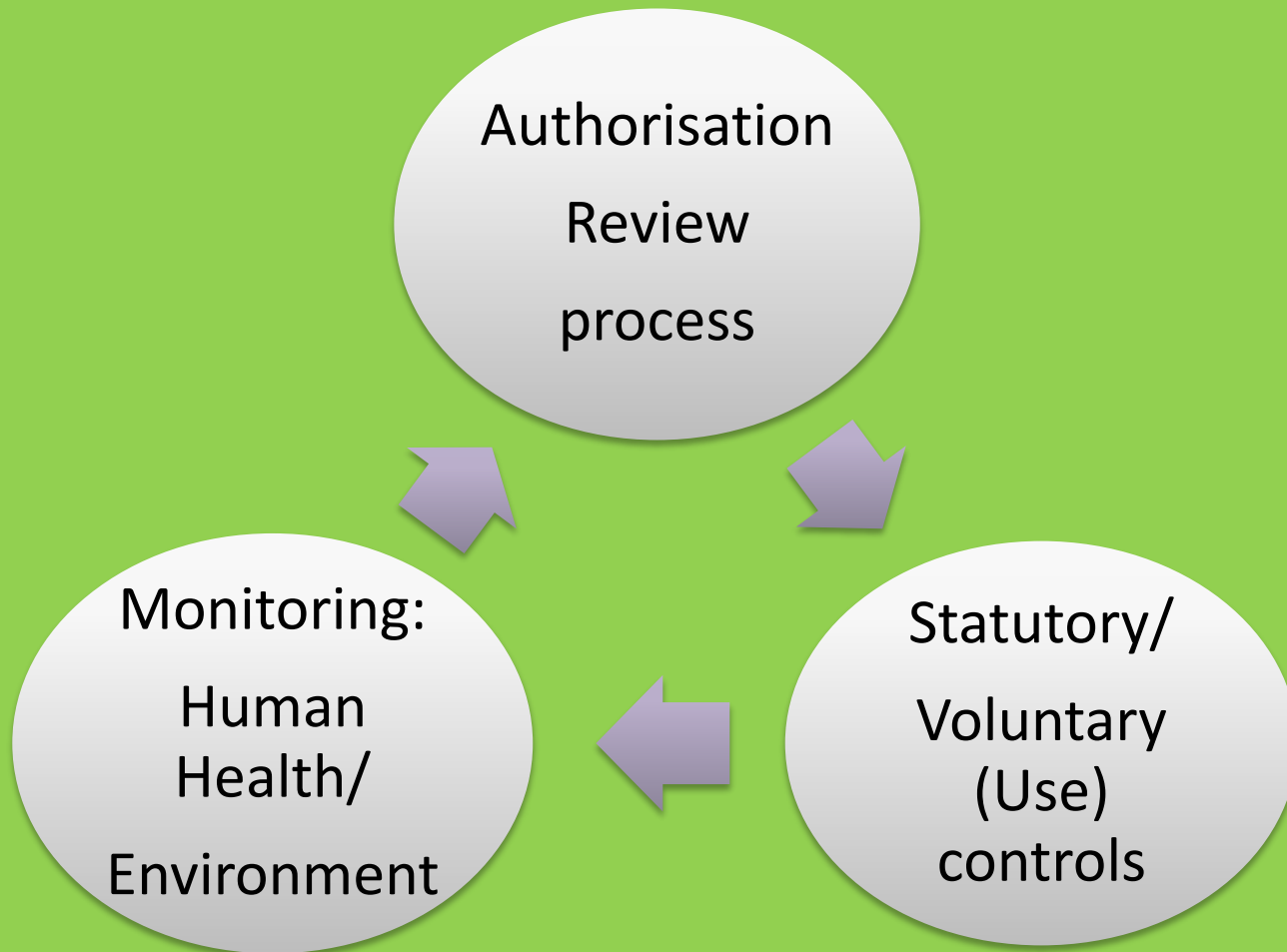


The objectives of the Amenity Forum include:-

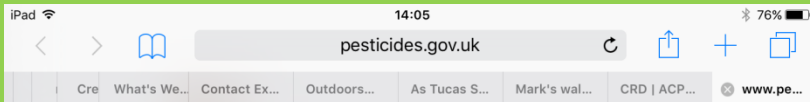
- To promote and encourage proper and responsible use of pesticides and integrated methods for the control of pests, weeds and diseases
- To lead, coordinate and encourage achievement of “Best Practice” objectives in Amenity pesticide use
- To coordinate and encourage the establishment of sustainable qualifications, training and CPD activity, specifically for the Amenity sector
- To organise activities within the Amenity Forum membership and linked organisations, such that objectives are developed in a coordinated way



Pesticides Regulations



Amenity forum



Members

Chair

Professor William Cusley is Professor of Molecular Immunology at the University of Glasgow. His research interests are in B cell development in health and disease. He has wide experience of scientific bodies having lately been Chair of the Board of Trustee Directors of the Babraham Institute in Cambridge. He is also currently Chair of Health & Life Science review Panels for the European Science Foundation. Bill was appointed to the ACP in 2014

Members

Dr Gary Bending is a Reader in Environmental Science in the School of Life Sciences at the University of Warwick. He specialises in understanding processes which control the fate of pesticides in the environment. This is his second year on the Committee

Dr John Cocker is a biochemist and Head of Biological Monitoring at the Health and Safety Laboratory, Buxton, Derbyshire. This is his final year on the Committee.

Mr Richard Davis is a retired Director of HSE's Chemicals Regulation Directorate, and a graduate in plant pathology. This is his third year on the Committee

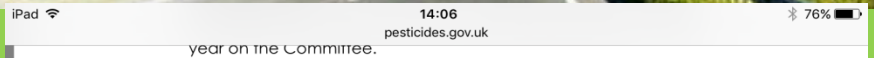
Ms Jennifer Dean is a barrister, and is the ACP lay member for consumer affairs. This is her fifth year on the Committee.

Dr Martin Hare is a Principal Lecturer at Harper Adams University and is Chair of its Research Degrees Standards Committee. He is an active researcher in pesticide efficacy, and this is his third year on the Committee.

Dr Caroline Harris is Principal Scientist and Co-Director of the Centre for Chemical Regulation and Food Safety, Exponent International Ltd, Harrogate, North Yorkshire. This is her final year on the Committee.

Professor Tom Hutchinson is an expert in the ecotoxicology of amphibians, birds, fish, invertebrates and aquatic plants. He is Associate Professor in Ecotoxicology at the University of Plymouth. This is his second year on the Committee.

Mr Philip Jackson is a self-employed health and safety consultant, and is the ACP lay member for environmental issues. This is his fifth year on the Committee.



year on the Committee.

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Advisory Committee on Pesticides
Annual Report 2014



Professor Edward Lock is Industrial Professor of Toxicology at Liverpool John Moores University. This is his third year on the Committee.

Dr Chris Morris is a Senior Lecturer at the Medical Toxicology Centre at Newcastle University. He is also a member of the Dementia and Neurodegenerative Diseases Group and the Complex Genetics and Pharmacogenetics Research Group at the University. This is his third year on the Committee.

Professor Keith Palmer is Professor of Occupational Medicine with the University of Southampton. His areas of special interest include the causes, clinical management and prevention of illnesses associated with work. This is his third year on the Committee.

Professor Richard Shore is a vertebrate ecotoxicologist and Head of Site at the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (CEH) at Lancaster. He is a senior researcher investigating the environmental impacts of contaminants, and has an Honorary Chair at Lancaster University. This is his third year on the Committee.

Professor Andy Smith is Director of the Medical Research Council's (MRC) Toxicology Unit Integrative Toxicology Training Partnership based at the University of Leicester and Honorary Professor in Cancer Studies and Molecular Medicine. This is his third year on the Committee.

Professor Rod Blackshaw was recently the Director of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Sustainability at Plymouth University. He has extensive experience working as an applied entomologist and soil ecotoxicologist. His research interests predominantly lie in integrated pest management and soil zoology. Rod was appointed to the Committee in 2014.

Dr Stephen Waring is Consultant in Acute Medicine and Toxicology, York Hospitals NHS Trust, and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology, Hull/York Medical School. This is his final year on the Committee.

Dr Simon Wilkinson is a lecturer at the Medical Toxicology Centre, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne. He researches into routes of exposure to harmful chemicals, especially dermal absorption and metabolism. This is his third year on the Committee.



National Action Plan

- Required by SUD – promotes responsible pesticide use
- Introduces specific measures and requirements
- Plans take into account of national issues and priorities
- Industry –led approaches afforded a high profile plan



Priority Areas and Progress

- **Improving practice in the amenity sector.**
 - Understand and mitigating risk
 - Importance of training initiatives
- **Enhanced protection of water.**
 - Challenge of water quality legislation
 - Communication amongst stakeholders
- **Integrated approaches.**
 - Use of pesticides as part of a range of control measures
 - Enhanced understanding
 - Maximising effectiveness of R&D



KEY PRIORITIES

- **Minimise risk** to the operator, to the public and to the specifier/ contract awarder
- Achieve the **desired standard** in a **cost effective** manner
- Adopt an **integrated approach** to the task
- **Protect water**
- Protect surrounding desired vegetation



Key aspects of the Sustainable Use Directive



Human health protection



Environment protection



Water protection



Training & continuous professional development



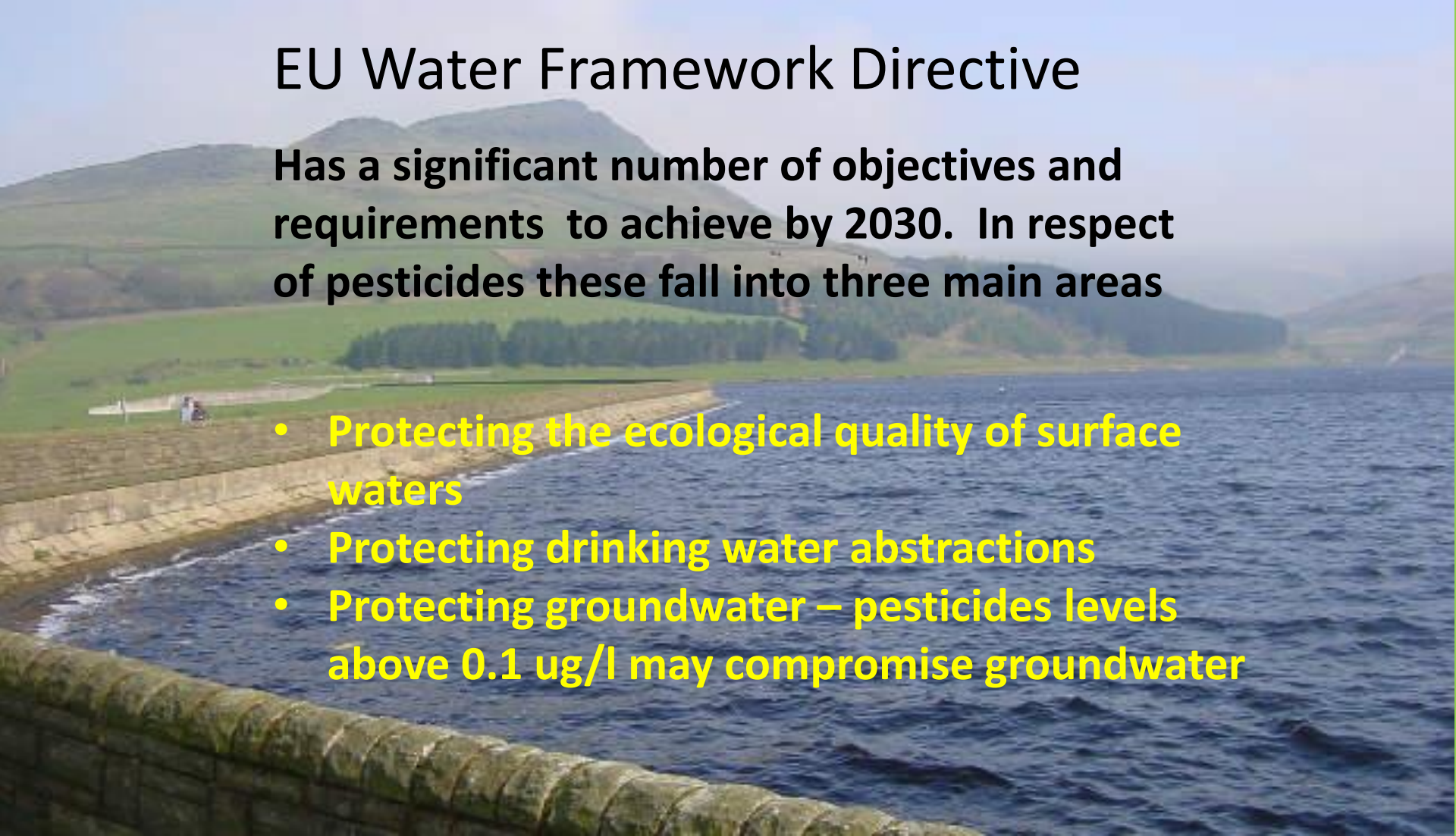
Targeted application & equipment testing



Handling and storage

EU Water Framework Directive

Has a significant number of objectives and requirements to achieve by 2030. In respect of pesticides these fall into three main areas

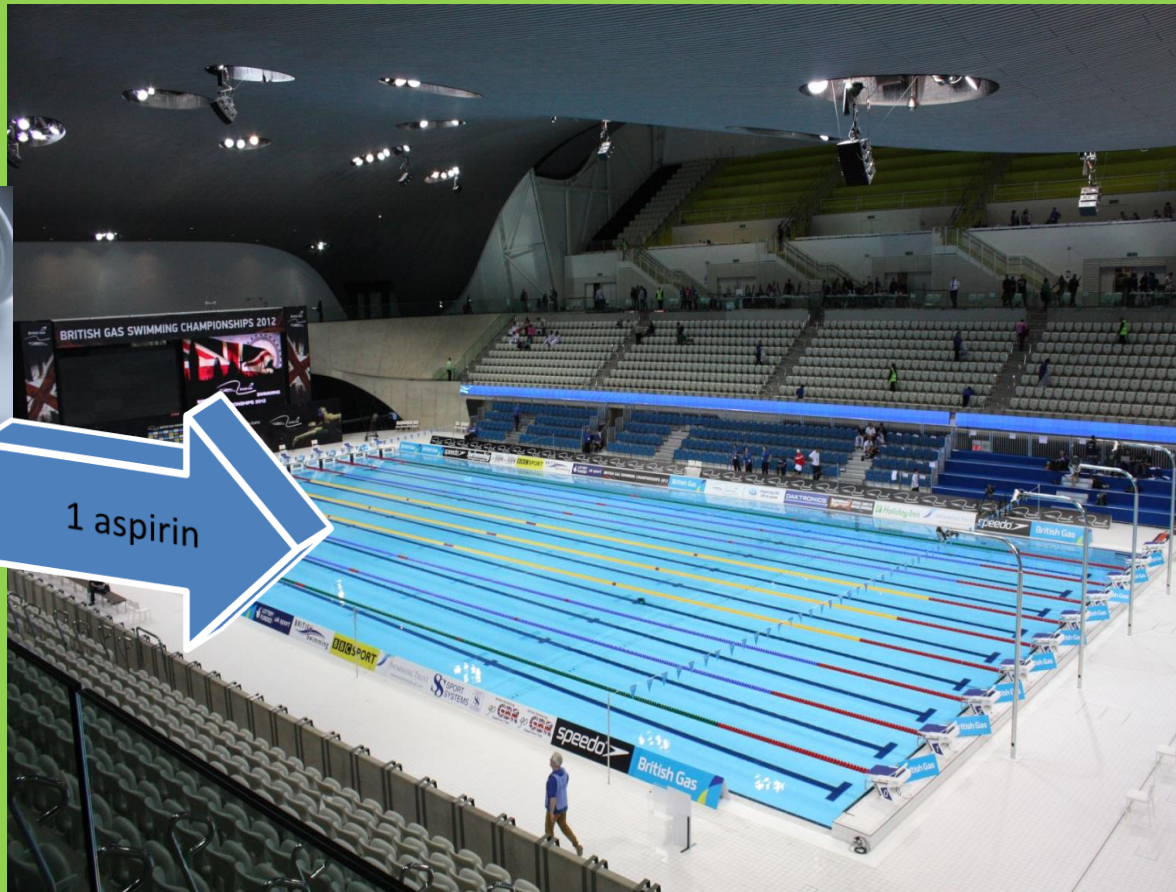
- Protecting the ecological quality of surface waters
 - Protecting drinking water abstractions
 - Protecting groundwater – pesticides levels above 0.1 ug/l may compromise groundwater
- 
- The bottom half of the slide features a photograph of a large concrete dam or weir. Water is flowing over the structure, creating white foam. In the background, there are green hills and a large body of water, possibly a reservoir or lake, under a clear sky. The overall scene is a natural, outdoor setting.

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What is 0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ (0.1ppb)?



1 aspirin



Invasive weeds – the big four !



Giant Hogweed



Japanese Knotweed



Ragwort



Himalayan Balsam

Other Invasive species

- Buddleia
- Rhododendron
- Aquatics
 - New Zealand Pigmy weed (Australian Swamp Stonecrop) *Crassula helmsii*
 - Parrot's-feather *Myriophyllum aquaticum*
 - Water Fern *Azolla filiculoides*
 - Floating Pennywort *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*
 - Water Primrose
- Animals
 - Grey squirrel



Legislation



Schedule 9 of WCSA 1981 (England & Wales)

Lists plants that cannot be planted or caused to grow in the wild

only includes two terrestrial species

Japanese Knotweed

Giant Hogweed





In Scotland

Schedule 9 was updated 30th
June 2005

now includes nine invasive
aquatic plants and four more
terrestrial plants



Curly Waterweed - *Lagarosiphon major*
False-acacia - *Robinia pseudo acacia*
Fanwort - *Cabomba caroliniana*
Water Fern - *Azolla filiculoides*
Few-flowered Leek - *Allium paradoxum*
Floating Pennywort - *Hydrocotyle
ranunculoides*
Giant Salvinia - *Salvinia molesta*
Hottentot Fig - *Carpobrotus edulis*
New Zealand Pigmy weed (Australian Swamp
Stonecrop) - *Crassula helmsii*
Parrot's-feather - *Myriophyllum aquaticum*
Shallon - *Gaultheria shallon*
Water Hyacinth - *Eichhornia crassipes*
Water Lettuce - *Pistia stratiotes*



- Survey
 - Database
 - GPS
- Prioritise
 - Giant Hogweed
 - Japanese Knotweed
 - Ragwort
- Plan
 - In House
 - Contract out
 - Timescales

The logo for 'Amenity Forum' is centered at the top of the slide. It features the word 'Amenity' in a bold, green, sans-serif font, with 'Forum' written below it in a smaller, green, cursive font. The text is enclosed within a circular graphic element that resembles a road or a path curving through a landscape.

Amenity Forum

Getting it Right

Set objectives

Clear

Achievable

Quantifiable

Start early!

**Spray Programmes are always
the most cost effective**

Targeted Programmes

Employ competent contractors

Avoid expensive 'miracle cures'

Pay on results?





Pesticide Bans & Concerns

- Plenty of talk about this
- But don't believe all you hear or read
- What is true is that we must support an integrated approach
- Demonstrate that we ourselves are committed to best practice with the most effective use of pesticides





Threat to glyphosate?

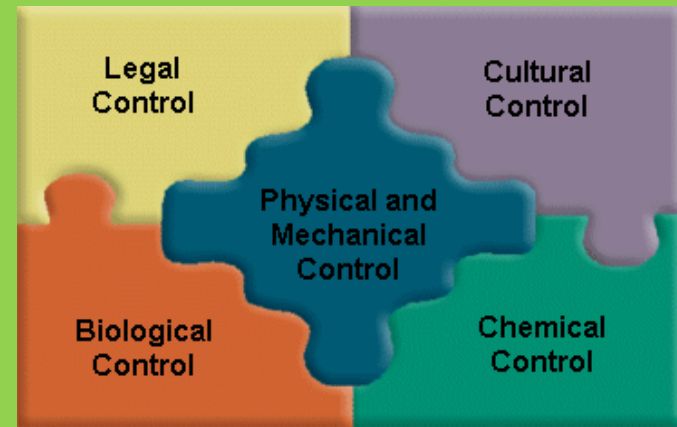
- Again don't believe everything you hear
- Some of the 'concerns' raised may well be based upon incorrect information
- But some would never let the facts get in the way of a good story
- Again the sector must demonstrate its commitment to best practice and that we can do this voluntarily





Other options

- Acetic Acid –
Headland New
Way Weed Spray
- Foam stream &
other heat
treatments




- For any situation adopt an IPM approach
- Demonstrate a site specific approach
 - Understand the asset;
 - Understand the risks (human health, environmental, resistance);
 - Adopt flexible approaches (type and degree control, timing of applications)
 - Consider all options for control
 - Joined up working.
- Effective contract and job specification management







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WEEDS

Best Practice Guidance
Notes for Integrated
and Non-chemical
Amenity Hard Surface
Weed Control

 Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

From a Defra-funded 5-year programme entitled:
*Development of zero and minimal herbicide regimes for
controlling weeds on hard surfaces and determining
their emissions P52802 (2009-2015)*



Summary

- Integrated control – ensure you know what it is and what it is not
- Use of pesticides – ensure advice is based upon facts and the science not just feelings and rumour
- Ensure you follow best practice, buy your chemicals from approved sources, seek advice, apply correctly and manage
- Join the Amenity Forum!



Contacts

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