Why is it on the list?

Glufosinate ammonium is classified as FSC Highly Hazardous as it is a: Developmental and reproductive toxin

Glufosinate ammonium contain ingredients that are suspected to interfere with normal growth and development, and are potential carcinogens.

Why do we still need to use it?

Glufosinate ammonium is used to break glyphosate resistance in some weeds.

Glufosinate ammonium is a non-persistent pesticide, as such it does not hang around in the soil or environment but breaks down quickly to become inactive and harmless.

Glufosinate ammonium is a contact herbicide for weeds and wildling (i.e. plantation seedlings growing outside of the plantation area) control on firebreaks.

Alternatives include Paraquat and Diquat but these are more toxic.

Mechanical weed-control options do not effectively remove resistant weed strains.

Additional controls

Deliver notices to adjacent neighbours.

As a reproductive toxin the use of a respirator approved to the AS/NZS 1715/1716 standard and sealed vehicle cabins with an appropriate chemical filter are required.

Spray buffers along water courses and between adjacent neighbours are established using the USDA Forest Service validated model AGDISP on each forest.

The search for an alternative

Other agricultural-based organisations are undertaking research into glyphosate resistance and alternatives. A viable alternative to Glufosinate has not yet been identified.

The Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative is a strong initiative that is well resourced to provide new and innovative non-pesticide based methods of weed control, including managing issues of herbicide resistance.

To comment please complete the 2015 FSC Highly Hazardous Pesticide Derogation Stakeholder Survey