

How rainfast is it really?

Results of a trial set up to measure rainfast times for PowerMax[®] and 4Farmers 470 glyphosate formulations.

The trial is a randomised paired plot design. Strips of each product 3 metres wide were sprayed out, divided into 3 metre plots, with 1 metre buffers between strips and plots. Plots were “rained on” using a hand lance after 1, 2, or 3 hours. “Rainfall” was approximately 3 mm – hardly a deluge.



Vegetation on the site was predominantly clover, so a PowerMax[®] rate of 1300 ml/ha was used. 4Farmers 470 was used at the equivalent rate of 1500 ml/ha, so both went on at 700 g ai/ha – give or take a few grams. The trial was set up and sprayed on June 19th, 2008. These photos were taken on July 24th – 4 weeks later.



The three plots sprayed with PowerMax[®] at 1300 ml/ha.
A few clover plants are surviving, showing just how tolerant
clover can be, but everything else is gone.



The three plots sprayed with 4Farmers Glyphosate 470 at 1500 ml/ha.
Again, the plots are clean of all plants except for the few surviving clover.



The three plots sprayed with PowerMax[®] at 1300 ml/ha, and “rained” on after 1 hour.

It is quite evident that the control is nowhere near as good as the plots that did not get watered. The glyphosate has NOT been fully absorbed, and was therefore still vulnerable to rainfall.

Note in Rep 3 (bottom left) the capeweed that has not been fully controlled.

And remember the rainfall was not excessive – a mere 3 mm.



The three plots sprayed with 4Farmers Glyphosate 470 at 1500 ml/ha, and “rained” on after 1 hour.
Again, the product is not fully absorbed (rainfast) – but then 4Farmers have never made such claims.



The three plots sprayed with PowerMax[®] at 1300 ml/ha, and watered after 3 hours.

Again it is evident that the glyphosate has still not been fully absorbed after this time, let alone the 1 hour rainfast period that is bandied about.

Remember the rainfall was only 3 mm.



The three plots sprayed with 4Farmers Glyphosate 470 at 1500 ml/ha, and “rained” on after 3 hours. Again, the product is not fully absorbed (rainfast) after 3 hours – just as we would expect.

The trial also included a 2 hour “rain” timing. The results from that treatment are essentially the same. They are not included.