



Environmental good practice in agricultural aviation

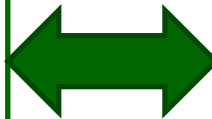
NZAAA Annual Conference 2014

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ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

Regional Council
District Council
EPA
WorkSafe



RM & HSNO Act, resource management plans, policies and rules, compliance and enforcement (discharges, land use)

Operators want*

- Active participation in planning processes
- Upskilled planners and policy makers to better understand the ag and rural aviation industry
- Information and up-skilled members
- Advocacy to members, regulatory bodies and government
- Increased media profile
- Re-evaluated NZAAA Accreditation programme

* NZAAA Conference 2010

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The issues?

In summary:

- Agchem/fert/bait in the wrong place, at the wrong rate, at the wrong time
- Perception vs reality
- Lack of consistency between councils
- Complexity of rules

THE SFF PROJECT

3 year project (2011 – 2014), SFF \$151k, co-funders \$124k
total cost \$400k (\$275k cash)



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THE SFF PROJECT

Three part approach by the project team:

Communication (30+ Regional Meetings,
over 350 attendees)

Collaboration (work with stakeholders)

Education/Information (regulator and
operator)

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Risk Based Approach

- Outcome focused
- Requires a risk assessment of the task
- Allows for multiple variables to be taken into account
- Appropriate management tools needed so that potential risks are addressed
- Requires task verification
- Achieves desired outcome

A risk based approach asks four questions

Question	How these can be described
What could be the adverse effect?	Potential adverse effects
What are the possible reasons for the adverse effect?	Risk factor
How could it occur?	Exposure pathway
How can the potential effect be managed?	Management options

Key developments in a risk based approach

- Guidance Note
- Technical Information
- Demonstration Days
- Quality Assurance and Accreditation

Guidance note

- Written for policy makers, planners, rule writers
- A web based document (hyperlinks)
<http://www.qualityplanning.org.nz>
- Describes a risk based approach for rules, outcomes based, not prescriptive
- Supported by technical information
- The risk assessment table (in the handout) is based on the Guidance Note

GN tables for agrichemicals, fertilisers, VTA, noise*

Potential adverse effects	Risk factors	Exposure pathway	Pilot Management options	Options for plan provisions and consent conditions
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What we want:

Rules and use conditions that are outcome based eg., No adverse effects from off target spray. How that is best achieved is up to the pilot

What we have:

Rules and conditions that specify or prescribe how a task must be carried out eg specifying minimum distances from a boundary

* Noise is an amenity issue and is dealt with separately in the GN

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RISK MANAGEMENT TABLE

Risk assessment requirements and management controls for aerial application of fertiliser, agrichemical and VTA

	Risk factors	Information needed	Information able to be used for task verification	Information able to be used for task verification
1	Application site (target)	Location and boundaries	GIS co-ordinates, dated photograph, Hand-written diagram or map, verbal	Application plan with map detailing location and boundaries



Demonstration Days

... “involve me and I learn”

- Held on operator’s base
- Emphasis on practical demonstration not preaching
- Selected audience of regulators, rule writers, Council staff and enforcement agencies



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Task verification

- “Evidence” on how the risks were managed
- It is after the event
- New technology (eg ipads) enables effective management of risk-based systems
- Accreditation programmes (eg AIRCARE) have a role

Accreditation vs certification

Are they the same?

- Certification is a personal qualification
- Accreditation is achieved by a business
 - Confirmation that an organisation has demonstrated compliance with selected rules and standards
- Certification retained
- Accreditation can be removed

Risk management into a planning framework

- Guidance Note sets out suggested provisions that could be incorporated into plans based on risk management
- Provisions are outcome focused
- Linked to risk management options pilots use
- Enable an operator to make the most appropriate decisions for the specific application

From the SFF project team

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Hosting the Demonstration Days:



With the support of ...



And our funding partners for the project:



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Progress for Pilots

- Electric Fence Feeder Wires
- Fertiliser physical properties
- Airstrips and facilities
- Wind monitoring masts

Progress for Pilots

- Compliance costs too high in AIRCARE™ Programme
- Industry needs positive publicity
- NZAAA website needs overhaul

Progress for Pilots

- Operators sometimes overloaded with newsletters
- Person needed to correct bad patterns
- NZAAA's attempts to make submissions on new RMA Plans not always successful