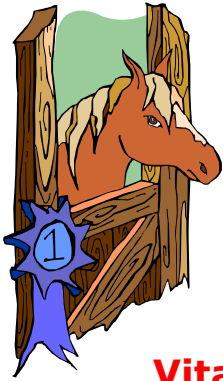


BE ALERT TO MANURE CONTAMINATION



Vital information for anyone who has a garden, an allotment, owns a horse or farm animals. If you use or supply manure read on!

Contaminated manure continues to cause widespread, long lasting problems to gardeners and allotment holders over the last couple of years. There is **still** a chance that any manure obtained could be contaminated and will severely damage or kill some ornamental and food plants. Once gardens or plots have been affected by contamination caused by the herbicide, the problem may linger in the soil for a season or even longer. The need for caution when obtaining supplies of manure is **vital** for the foreseeable future.



The main symptom displayed by affected plants is distorted growth in sensitive plants including potatoes, tomatoes, peas, beans, carrots, some roses and dahlias. Cane fruits also show sensitivity although to a lesser degree. Other plants may be affected if the level of contamination is high.

Use the link below to view more photos and video of affected plants.
http://www.glallotments.btik.com/p_Contaminated_Manure.ikml#Photographs

For more information see
http://www.glallotments.btik.com/p_Contaminated_Manure.ikml

For advice on disposal of affected manure contact manurematters@stewardship.co.uk



VITAL INFORMATION FOR GARDENERS

Questions to ask before buying the manure:

- Has any herbicide containing aminopyralid been used by the supplier of the manure or by any of **their** suppliers of silage, haylage or bedding material? (The material treated with the herbicide **does not** have to pass through an animal to contaminate the manure – it may be present in bedding material that has been swept up with the manure). The most common herbicide that contains aminopyralid is 'Forefront' although there are other products too such as **Banish, Halcyon, Pharaoh, Pro-Banish, and Runway.**
- Were the horses/livestock that produced the manure fed any forage (grass/hay/haylage/silage) that **may** have been treated with any products containing aminopyralid?
- Was **any** field where the animals browsed spot weeded using any products containing aminopyralid e.g. to remove clumps of docks or ragwort.
- If a contract sprayer has been used does the manure supplier know which herbicide was used to control any broad leaved weeds growing in fields that animals browsed or from which grass was harvested to make silage, haylage or hay for bedding?
- Is all the manure in the stack from the same source i.e. the same animals, same feed/browsed in the same field, or is it from various sources and just stacked together? **All** the manure in the stack must be free from contamination.
- **Do not** be fooled by the fact that weeds are growing on the manure heap. The amount of herbicide required to kill weeds is far higher than is needed to kill sensitive plants.

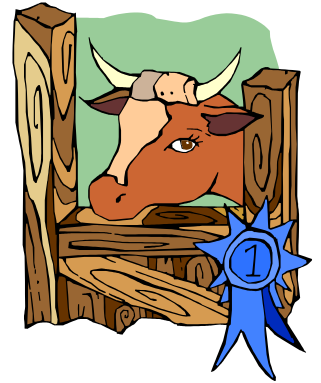
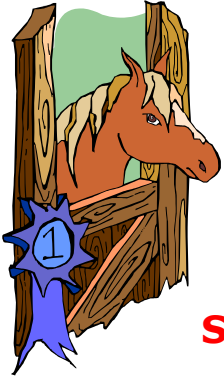
The manure supplier needs to **know** what chemicals have been used in the supply chain not just make assumptions.

Stacking manure will **not** remove this type of contamination. If the supplier tells you that the manure that is on offer has been stacked for long enough to ensure that it is safe to use this is not good enough.

Do not accept manure if the supplier tells you they have tested it for aminopyralid – testing is exceptionally difficult and cannot be relied upon.

If after speaking to your supplier you are in **any** doubt them don't accept the manure.

For advice on disposal of affected manure contact manurematters@stewardship.co.uk



VITAL INFORMATION FOR ANYONE SUPPLYING MANURE TO GARDENERS OR ALLOTMENT HOLDERS



Before supplying manure to gardeners, you must be **absolutely sure** that it is free from any contamination from aminopyralid. If your animal/animals have fed or been bedded on material which has been in contact at **any** stage with a herbicide containing aminopyralid then the manure will be contaminated.

- Has **any** field in which your animal/animals browse been treated with a product containing aminopyralid e.g. Forefront? This includes where weeds in a field have been spot weeded e.g. to kill docks or ragwort.
- If a contract sprayer has been used or your animal/animals browse in a field/s belonging to someone else and you cannot guarantee that aminopyralid based products have been used then you **must not** pass on any manure.
- Has **any** bedding, hay or haylage or any other foodstuffs that you use been produced from any grass which has been sprayed with a herbicide containing aminopyralid? If you wish to supply manure you must check with **all** your suppliers.
- Stacking manure for a period of time will **not** remove the herbicide residue. This is trapped in the manure until it is dug into the soil.

Manure that has been in any way affected by aminopyralid **should not, under any circumstance,** be supplied to gardeners or allotment holders.