



## PG&E Proposed Herbicide Spraying

Roundup is listed for use by PG&E's contractor for vegetation control around power poles in Humboldt County and elsewhere, but PG&E's project director claims Roundup WILL NOT be used. Here's a brief look at two other listed pesticides. Another formula proposed for use is Liberate Adjuvant, made to enhance the efficacy of the pesticides but is not itself a pesticide.

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### Esplanade 200 SC

From the EPA-required LABEL: Suspension Concentrate. Preemergence Herbicide

Active ingredient: Imidaziflam .....19.05% Other Ingredients.....80.95%

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS *This product is toxic to fish, aquatic invertebrates, and plants.*

**Ground Water Advisory:** This pesticide has properties and characteristics associated with chemicals detected in groundwater. This chemical may leach into ground water if used in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow.

**Surface Water Advisory:** This pesticide may impact water quality due to runoff of rainwater. This is especially true for poorly draining soils and soils with shallow ground water. This product is classified as having a high potential for reaching surface water via runoff for several months or more after application.

Applications made to areas where runoff water flows onto agricultural land may injure crops. Applications made during periods of intense rainfall, to soils saturated with water, or soils through which rainfall will not readily penetrate may result in runoff and movement of Esplanade 200 SC.

Treated soil should be left undisturbed to reduce the potential for Esplanade 200 SC movement by soil erosion, by wind, or water.

Applications should be made only when there is little or no risk of spray drift or movement of applied product into sensitive areas. Sensitive areas are defined as bodies of water (ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams), habitats of endangered species and non-labeled agricultural crop areas.

**Links:**

[Click here for Beyond Pesticides' review of Esplanade 200/imdaziflam](#)

### Milestone/Aminopyralid

Active ingredient Aminopyralid .....40.6% Other ingredients.....59.4%

According to the manufacturer, Milestone has been reviewed and registered under the Reduced Risk Pesticide Initiative of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Aminopyralid is considered low toxicity to humans and other animals. However, it has been implicated in numerous crop failures when compost or manure containing the chemical were used on crops due to its persistence, i.e. the very long time it remains toxic. Milestone's label states: Do not use aminopyralid-treated plant residues, including hay or straw from treated areas, or manure from animals that have grazed forage or eaten hay harvested from treated areas within the previous 3 days, in compost or mulch that will be applied to areas where commercially grown mushrooms or susceptible broadleaf plants may be grown."

**Links:**

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/crop-production/soil/aminopyralid-residues-compost>

<https://www.beyondpesticides.org/assets/media/documents/infoservices/pesticidesandyou/documents/aminopyralid.pdf>

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-addresses-ecological-risks-posed-aminopyralid>