



Markus Weber
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Letter of No Objection: Application of pesticides registered for conventional aerial application by drones

On February 23, 2026, Health Canada posted [Regulatory Proposal PRO2026-01, Consultation on permitting pesticide application by Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems \(RPAS; commonly known as drones\) for products currently registered for aerial application](#) for a 30-day public consultation. In essence, this document proposes to allow RPAS application of pest control products when aerial application is present on the registered pest control label. Full details and associated requirements can be found in the proposal. Health Canada will be publishing the final policy in the near future.

In the interim, it is understood that some urgent situations may require the application by drones of some pest control products captured in the above proposal. If the registered labels of the required products contain directions for aerial application to the crop needing treatment, application of the product by RPAS would fall within scope of PRO2026-01 and would be acceptable from a health, environment, and value perspective provided that the following conditions are met (refer to PRO2026-01 for full details and explanations):

- Application by RPAS fully complies with all label directions for aerial application, with no changes to spray volume, application rate, droplet size, spray buffer zones, or any other conditions of use.
- The person who mixes and loads the pesticide is different from the RPA pilot.
- Mixers and loaders wear the minimum personal protective equipment (PPE) required on the label.
- The RPA pilot, the visual observer, and workers handling the RPA during application must follow the PPE and mitigation measures for ground application (either groundboom or airblast) to the crop.

This letter is only valid until the full policy is published, at which time it will supersede this letter. In addition, it does not exempt applicators from any other federal and provincial legislative requirements, such as holding a valid RPA pilot certificate issued by Transport Canada.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Jason Flint
Chief Registrar
Pesticides Regulatory Directorate
Health Canada

cc:

Lisa Duncan, Director, Pesticide Compliance Program, ROEB