

# National Sprayer Testing Scheme in the Amenity Sector



## Satisfies

- ▶ Sustainable Use Directive (SUD)
- ▶ Amenity Industry protocols
- ▶ Follows best practice principles
- ▶ Fits all types of application equipment
- ▶ Carried out on site
- ▶ Commercial at point of use
- ▶ Counts towards NASOR and NRoSO CPD
- ▶ Test Centres throughout UK

Your nearest NSTS Test Centre is

[www.nsts.org.uk](http://www.nsts.org.uk)



### **Do I need my sprayer testing?**

Yes. Under the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD), all pesticide application equipment requires an NSTS test certificate from 26 November 2016. Annual inspection of application equipment shows best practice, ensures maximum sprayer efficiency and can reduce costly downtime. It also shows commitment to the Voluntary Initiative and satisfies industry protocols.

### **Do all machines need testing?**

All self-propelled, trailed or mounted equipment with a boom width over 3 metres will require testing. A test must be carried out every 5 years from 26 November 2016 and every 3 years from 26 November 2020.

### **What about smaller equipment?**

For boom sprayers 3 metres and under and granular applicators, the test needs to be carried out every 6 years. Handheld (including knapsack) sprayers should be regularly checked and a record kept. This checklist can be found on the NSTS website

### **Who carries out the test?**

A national network of Test Centres offers the service to sprayer owners. Go to [www.nsts.org.uk](http://www.nsts.org.uk) where you can enter your postcode to find your nearest Centre.



### **How much does the test cost?**

Sprayer testing is carried out on a commercial basis and is charged accordingly. There is an annual registration fee for each test completed, which is collected on behalf of NSTS Amenity by the examiner.

### **Are records kept of my test?**

Individual test information is entered onto the NSTS database and is protected under the Data Protection Act.



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**John Moverley**, Independent Chairman, the Amenity Forum, says

*“The implementation of the Sustainable Use Directive increased the spotlight on amenity and the need for efficient and effective spraying as part of an integrated approach to weed, pest and disease control. Regular testing of spraying equipment is now mandatory for any operator mounted machine but is encouraged for all as part of best practice. In any case it makes economic sense.”*