

PREPARE NOW FOR GRASSWEED CONTROL

With the memory of a very wet autumn 2023 and challenging spring '24, it is clear that preparation is more important than ever to ensure success on farm.

While most sights are currently set on bringing home the harvest safely, it is important to remember that it won't be long thereafter and growers will be faced with drilling their next crop. Efforts made now may help to ensure the best possibility of doing that successfully, especially where grassweeds present an immediate challenge on farm.

Avadex has been available in the UK since 1961 and to this day continues to be a foundation in many grassweed programs, says Gowan Crop Protection. Avadex, containing tri-allele, provides an outstanding additional contribution to grassweed management when applied as part of an integrated grassweed control strategy.

Avadex, however, is a little different to what many growers are accustomed to using. While Avadex is formulated, as 'Avadex Factor', a liquid capsule suspension formulation, the highest loading formulation is the micro granule 'Avadex Excel 15G'. UK and Ireland business manager for Gowan Crop Protection, Hank King, explains that while most growers regularly test their sprayers with an annual NSTS test and are very familiar with safe and responsible applications of liquid pesticides there appears to be less awareness of the best use guidance for applications of granular pesticides.

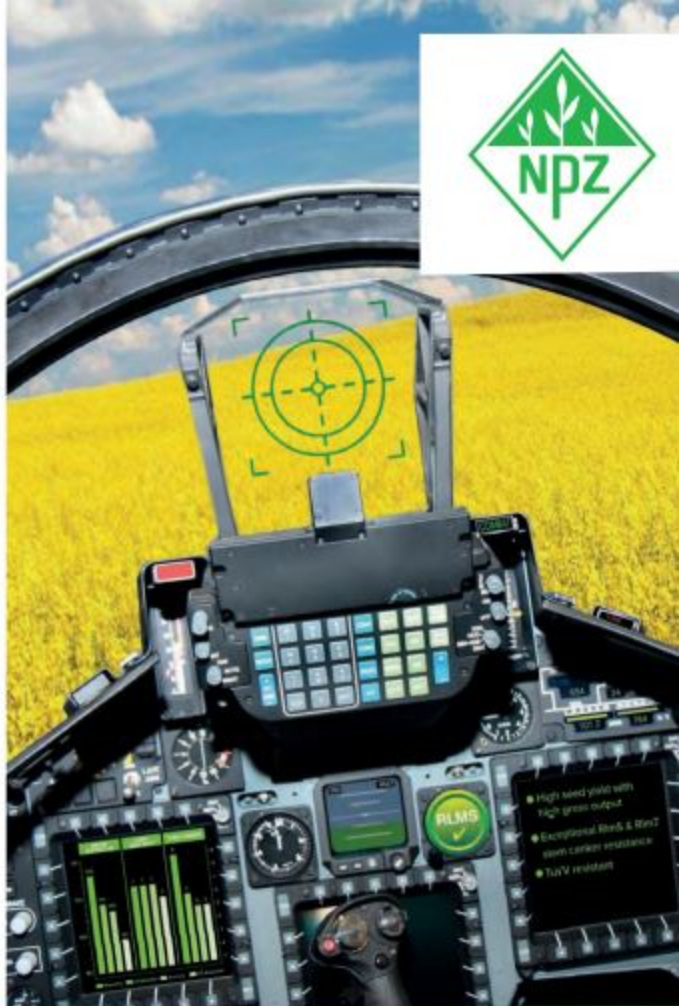
Gowan Crop Protection has always advocated the importance of ensuring your granular Avadex Excel applicator is calibrated annually and

continues to provide blank 'dummy granules' for this purpose as the first of several key steps needed to ensure that Avadex Excel granules are utilised safely and effectively. Calibration and patterning testing goes hand in hand with good applicator maintenance ahead of use and all three are key if you want to ensure that you get accurate application of the product thereby getting the best possible return on investment from the application of Avadex Excel 15G.

"Given Avadex Excel's unique formulation it's sometimes easy to forget that you are applying a pesticide and it is critically important to ensure that the product is being applied in accordance with the label at all times. That means ensuring that all staff applying the product use the appropriate personal protective equipment, are appropriately trained and therefore hold the necessary PA4G certification which is something that can be easily overlooked if one is not careful," explains Mr King.

So, in order to be best prepared, and have the best chance at success, ensure that your enterprise is equipped, trained and ready for the season ahead.

Any grower needing any further information or some 'dummy granules' for applicator calibration is invited to get in touch via the Gowan website uk.gowanco.com and the Gowan UK team will be delighted to help. [PG](https://www.gowan.co.uk)



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