



## The Use of Asulam for Bracken Control in 2020

### Update - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020

During the meeting hosted by Defra in York on 21<sup>st</sup> February, the Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) of HSE agreed to consider an additional Emergency Authorisation (EA) Application that presented information that had not been available when the original EA application for the 2020 season was submitted, in July 2019.

The additional application was submitted on 7<sup>th</sup> April, and details are available on the BCG website. The application is asking for the ground-based application of Asulam to be authorised and the buffer zone against surface water bodies to remain at 50m. Change is not being resisted but it is being suggested that change should be based on good evidence and that the proposals are practical.

The application will be reviewed by CRD and if it is considered that a good enough case has been made, it will be forwarded to the Expert Committee on Pesticides, who will decide whether the new information justifies changing their recommendations to the Pesticides Minister in Defra about the restrictions to be included in the EA approval.

The final version of the EA approval, which was issued in draft in November, is due to come into effect from 18<sup>th</sup> May, to allow time for the distribution of Asulam prior to the start of the chemical bracken control season, on 1<sup>st</sup> July, but it is not clear when a decision about this latest application will be made. As soon as any details are received from CRD they will be passed on in another newsletter / update. The BCG is discussing with UPL Europe Ltd how details of the final decision can be circulated so that distributors and end-users of Asulam are aware of the restrictions on the use of Asulam in 2020.

Please circulate details in this update to the people you are in contact with, and let them know that more information will be circulated, as soon as it is available.

#### **Circulation**

This newsletter is being circulated to over 300 people, and this includes the 178 people who responded to the [Bracken Briefing and Questionnaire](#).

If anyone wants to receive updates like this one direct, they can sign up for the newsletter [here](#).

#### **Additional information**

[Bracken Control website](#). The additional EA Application is available [here](#) or on the [Asulam page](#) of the website.

[Bracken Briefings](#): these are a series of short briefings that have been prepared to summarise the current situation.

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