

9 August 2019

J Bruning  
[fyi-request-10724-28d14b8f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-10724-28d14b8f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

REF: OIA-5436

Dear J Bruning

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 12 July 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. Please can you advise which herbicides are used by NZTA across New Zealand, including adjuvants and organosilicon surfactants (please provide formulation names) which are applied to roadside, highway and railway line as part of roadside management. Please can you advise herbicides and mixtures used for each of the Upper, Central and Lower North Island and for the South Island as climates vary and operations may differ.
2. As part of (1) please can you advise the common mixtures of herbicides, adjuvants and organosilicon surfactants (referred to as tank mixes) used in roadside, highway and railway line applications.
3. Please can you provide details the total quantities of specific herbicides used in managing road, highway and railway track applied annually across New Zealand.
4. Please can you provide an estimate of the approximate frequency of application of the above herbicides applied annually. This may differ for region so please can you provide the application frequency for the Upper, Central and Lower North Island and for the South Island.

The NZ Transport agency is unable to provide any information relating to local roads or KiwiRail assets because we do not hold any information on their behalf. We have provided information for all State Highways. If you would like information on local roads, please contact the relevant road controlling authorities (such as the relevant local council). If you would like more information on railway tracks, please contact KiwiRail.

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: OIA-5436 questions 1,2 and 4.

I am refusing question 3 of your request under section 18(e) of the Act because the information does not exist. We do not record the information, please note that the quantity will vary considerably depending on the seasonal variances year to year, the number of times treatment is applied, and the area treated each time.

It's important to note that the products used are in line with recommended good practice and in accordance with local resource consent conditions. Any products used by our contractors must be safe, legal and fit for purpose.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse this information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Rob Campbell, Manager System Management by email to [rob.campbell@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:rob.campbell@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wayne Oldfield', written in a cursive style.

**Wayne Oldfield**

Acting Senior Manager, System Management