



# Herbicide MoA alignment: Stage 1

**Herbicide Mode of Action (MoA) classifications have been updated internationally to capture new active constituents and ensure the MoA classification system is globally relevant.**

The global MoA classification system is based on numerical codes which provides infinite capacity to accommodate new herbicide MoA coming to market, unlike the alphabetical codes currently used in Australia.

Farming is becoming increasingly global. Farmers, agronomists and academics around the world are now, more than ever, sharing and accessing information to assist them to grow crops, while managing sustainability issues such as herbicide resistant weeds.

It's important then that the herbicide MoA classification system utilised in Australia be aligned with the global classification system. This will ensure more efficient farming systems into the future and allow Australian farmers and advisors to access the most up-to-date information relating to managing herbicide resistance.

CropLife Australia is working with key herbicide resistance management experts, advisors and the APVMA to ensure farmers and agronomists are aware of the planned changes.

Growers can expect to start seeing herbicide labels with the new mode of action classification system from early 2022. There will be a transition period during which herbicide labels will exist in the supply chain, some bearing the legacy alphabetical MoA classifications, and others transitioned to the global numerical system.

**The numerical classification system should be fully implemented by the end of 2024.**

A mobile app compatible with Android and Apple systems is available via the **HRAC website** ([hracglobal.com](http://hracglobal.com)) at no cost to users. It will cross reference the herbicide active ingredient with its former MoA letter and new MoA number. Printed materials will also be made available to enable cross referencing of the changes.



## Frequently asked questions

### Q. Why change from letters to numbers?

**A.** A numerical code system is more globally relevant and sustainable, compared to the current alphabetic code used in Australia. Today there are 25 recognised MoAs. Over the next 10 years we anticipate up to four new modes of action to be commercialised, which will exceed the 26-letter maximum in the English alphabet.

### Q. What is going to change?

**A.** The current alphabetical codes for herbicide active ingredients will change to numerical codes, in alignment with the global MoA classification system. For example, Group A herbicides will be labelled as Group 1 herbicides and Group M (glyphosate) will become Group 9.

Some new MoA will be introduced to accommodate some of the new chemistry being introduced world-wide. Some active ingredients will also be reclassified into different groups to better reflect their actual mode of action, not chemical structure.

A complete summary of the changes is available via the mobile app. More detailed information regarding the changes will be available in mid-2021.

### Q. What are the main changes?

**A.** The main changes are outlined in the free mobile app, which you can download from the [HRAC website](#). We are still working with industry experts to identify the consequences of these changes regarding how products fit into an integrated weed management program and will provide more specific guidance on the changes in mid-2021.

### Q. How will the changes affect what we do?

**A.** The way growers use herbicides in the field will not change. The science hasn't changed and the mix and rotate messages remain correct. It is just the classification codes used on product labels and literature that will change from a letter to a number. Continue to follow your current IWM strategy and rotation plans.

### Q. When will the changes take place?

**A.** There will be a transition period starting from July 2021, with growers likely to begin to see labels bearing the new MoA numbering system in the marketplace in early 2022.

### Q. Does this mean the current MoA are wrong?

**A.** The science has not changed. Stick with your current IWM strategy and plans to rotate herbicides. In this era of multiple cross resistance, there is no magic bullet amongst the new modes of action.

### Q. How will I know which products to rotate?

**A.** The science hasn't changed – stick with your current IWM strategy and plans to rotate herbicides. If in doubt, particularly with newer herbicides recently introduced, consult the manufacturer or your local agronomic advisor.

A summary of the changes is available via the mobile app. More detailed information regarding the changes will be available in mid-2021.

### Q. Can I still use product on hand which has the old MoA printed on the label?

**A.** Yes. Legacy labels will be phased out over the next few years and will continue to be legally valid, although growers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the new MoA classification system and corresponding resistance management strategies from 1 July 2021.

### Q. Where can I find out more information?

**A.** You can find more information at the [CropLife website](#) and the free mobile app is available on the [HRAC website](#).



**Download the  
Global HRAC Herbicide  
MOA Classification app  
via Google Play or  
the App Store.**

To find out more visit:  
[croplife.org.au/MoA](https://croplife.org.au/MoA)



@CropLifeOz



info@croplife.org.au



02 6273 2733