



Padre 270

Plant Growth Regulator

Smart Growth Management for Grasslands

Product Overview

ProForce Padre 270 Plant Growth Regulator is a systemic growth regulator designed to suppress the growth of Bahia Grass and Kikuyu in low-maintenance turf, grassland and vegetation areas.

Containing 270 g/L Maleic Hydrazide, it reduces cell division in grasses, limiting vertical growth and seedhead production for up to 12-16 weeks.

This results in a tidier sward, fewer mowing requirements, and improved erosion control, making it a cost-effective management tool for roadsides, rights-of-way, industrial sites, and other hard-to-maintain grassed areas.

ProForce®
Padre 270
Plant Growth Regulator

Key Features

- > Suppresses growth of Bahia Grass, Kikuyu and other grasses for 12-16 weeks.
- > Reduces seed stalks and seed head formation.
- > Minimises mowing frequency in difficult-to-access areas.
- > Supports soil stabilisation and erosion prevention.
- > Ideal for hard-to-access and low-maintenance areas.
- > Cost-effective alternative to repeated herbicide applications or mowing.
- > Non-Scheduled Chemistry.
- > Potassium salt formulation for improved plant uptake and utilisation.

Where to Use

- ✓ Low-maintenance grassed & turfed areas
- ✓ Fencelines, roadsides, rail & rights-of-way
- ✓ Industrial & non-crop situations

How it Works & Mode of Action

Absorption and Translocation

- When applied as a foliar spray, Maleic Hydrazide (MH) is absorbed through the leaves.
- It is systemically translocated within the plant, moving both upward and downward in the vascular system.
- This allows MH to reach actively dividing cells in shoots, stems, and meristems.

Interference with Cell Division (Mitosis)

- Maleic Hydrazide interferes with the synthesis of nucleic acids (DNA and RNA), disrupting normal cell division (mitosis).
- The result is slower or arrested cell division in rapidly growing tissues such as shoot tips and seed head primordia.

Kikuyu



Impact on Plant Growth

- By limiting cell division, vertical shoot elongation and seed stalk formation are suppressed.
- Grass growth is redirected toward stability rather than rapid extension, resulting in:
 - o Reduced mowing frequency.
 - o Lower seedhead emergence (aesthetic improvement, less pollen production, reduce weed seed dissemination).
 - o Improved grassland / turf density and ground cover.

Selectivity and Persistence

- Maleic Hydrazide is selective for certain grasses such as Bahia Grass and Kikuyu where it slows vertical growth significantly.
- Growth suppression typically lasts 8-16 weeks, depending on application rate and growing conditions.

Additional Effects

- By preventing excessive top growth, MH indirectly conserves root reserves and improves grassland & turf resilience in low-maintenance areas.
- Reduced mowing requirements mean less mechanical stress and compaction in treated areas.

Bahia Grass



Formulated in Australia



ProForce Padre 270 PGR – Use Rates & Label Recommendations

Application Guidelines

- Apply to actively growing grasses free from leaf litter.
- Avoid mowing/slashing within 12 hours before or after application.
- Do not irrigate/rainfall within 24 hours post-application.
- Reapply every 8-14 weeks if needed.

SITUATION	TARGET	RATE			CRITICAL COMMENTS
		High Volume Spray/100L of water (Handgun)	Spray/ha (Boom)	Knapsack Application/ 100 m ²	
Low Maintenance Grassed and turfed areas, Fencelines, Industrial areas, Non-crop Situations, Roadside, Rail and Rights-of-way	Bahia Grass (<i>Paspalum notatum</i>) Suppression and seedhead control, Kikuyu	600 mL-1.25L	6-12.5 L	60-125 mL	<p>Apply PADRE 270 at least 12 hours before or after mowing and when grass sward is actively growing.</p> <p>As much as possible, avoid rainfall or irrigation for 24 hours post application.</p> <p>Use the lower rates on specified grass species with moderate growth rates where a lower level of growth reduction is required, or when used in a program.</p> <p>Apply rates towards the higher end of the rate range when growth is vigorous or when longer periods of suppression are required. Re-apply at 8-14 week intervals as required.</p> <p>Use of a commercial non-ionic surfactant will assist in providing better coverage and improve translocation.</p> <p>On grass areas, where broadleaf weed growth is a problem, it is recommended to tank mix PADRE 270 with a suitable broadleaf weed herbicide.</p>



Research Highlights

– Maleic Hydrazide in Grassland & Turf Management

- **Proven Seedhead Suppression**

Studies show 70-90% reduction in seedheads of Bahia grass and other roadside turf species within the first 4-8 weeks after application.

- **Reduced Mowing Frequency**

Transportation and roadside research confirms MH can extend mowing intervals and lower maintenance costs in rights-of-way and low-input turf systems.

- **Duration of Effect**

Suppression typically lasts 8-16 weeks, depending on rate, timing, and turf species, with stronger control under spring applications.



Untreated Control
– 12 weeks after application
(17/11/2016)

**ProForce Padre 270 +
Trinexapac ethyl 250 EC**
– 12 weeks after application
(17/11/2016)

**ProForce Padre 270 +
Paclobutrazol 250 SC**
– 12 weeks after application
(17/11/2016)

Source

Evaluation of plant growth regulators for the reduction of vegetative growth of grassed roadsides, Peracto, Granton, Tasmania, 2016.