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## Important Notice for Almond Growers in Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties

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Valent is adding a “**use at your own risk**” statement for Chateau® Herbicide SW in almonds in a defined geography in your area. The user should be aware and assume the risk before applying *Chateau* in almonds in the defined area.

### Background

- In defined areas of Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties, occasional crop injury has occurred in almonds when *Chateau* treatments were made in orchards under stress conditions accentuated by limited soil moisture.
- There are several risk factors in this geography, which together make this area a unique growing environment.
- Almond growers have requested that the *Chateau* label remain available in this area due to high satisfaction when best practices are followed.



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## Best Practices for *Chateau* Use in Almonds in Defined Area

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### Timing

- For best results, apply *Chateau* in the fall prior to winter rains.
- Apply only once per season. Avoid sequential applications in the restricted area.

### Soil Type & pH

- Use **only** in soils with >15% clay content and >1% organic matter.
- Manage top 2 inches of soil to a pH of 6.5 to 7.0, and soil profile to a neutral to slightly basic pH level.
- Avoid use in restrictive soil profiles including hardpans, sub-surface rock and areas that have been cut, filled and/or leveled.

### Moisture Requirements

- Irrigate to supplement rainfall if needed to bring accumulated moisture to 6+ inches between application and bud break.
- For more information on soil moisture management, refer to the U.C. Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3308 IPM Almonds manual.

### Planting / Replanting / Transplants

- Wait at least six months after a *Chateau* treatment if there is a risk that herbicide treated soil will come into contact with young almond tree roots.
- Do not use *Chateau*-treated soil to cover newly planted tree roots.
- Add compost and/or humic acid to increase soil organic matter.

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Acknowledgement of Understanding

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**Read and follow the label instructions before using.**

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