At Linwood Supply we only provide what you need and the brand you want. Sometimes it’s the original formula, sometimes a new and improved version and often the generic is just fine to get job done for less. Sometimes the original manufacturer is long gone and all the brands are generic.

Years ago, only the first manufacture and patent holder produced a given product. As the years went by patents expired, products and brand names have been sold off or licensed and companies have merged or just ceased to exist. A number of companies have discovered that they can easily produce many of the “off-patent” chemicals we use daily. Just as frequently, the original manufacture produces more tech grade than they can use so they sell the left overs to a smaller company who then formulates into a finished product - and then of course the original manufacture complains about unfair generic competition and a lack of brand loyalty. Most of the generic producers make good quality products and sell them at a fair price. Many generics are made outside of the US but nowadays many of the original brands are too. Still not all generics are created “or equal”’. Many times your best choice IS the original brand and manufacturer. Just make sure you buy a quality product with a container label that is legal for your state, especially if you live in California.

So how can you tell if a generic is of high quality and comes with a legal container label? How can you make that choice between an original brand and a generic when your job is on the line? Or when your crop or golf course is at stake? Or when you are responsible for 500 miles of highway shoulders and rights of way that needs an eight month weed free guarantee?

Simple. Ask your current sales rep to put his site specific recommendation in writing. If “your” rep won’t do that personally – then he is either inexperienced, or an unlicensed peddler or the product is junk or all of the above. Either way your concerns and your failure are not a concern to a peddler so long as he makes a quick sell. Beware of large supply houses with multiple locations where only one or two licensed individuals attempt to service an entire state or region, it’s a firm guarantee you’ll never see the level of service you think you are paying for. When a real licensed Pest Control Advisor is willing to place his or her recommendation in writing and sign his name to it, then chances are he has visited the site, researched the product, maybe used it at his own place, conferred with other PCAs and has studied the chemistry to be able to offer quality products backed by knowledge and experience.

I have over 30 years of experience as a licensed Pest Control Advisor plus about 15 years experience as a Certified Crop Consultant. I am the primary technical consultant at Linwood Supply. Although a small business we maintain relationships with the manufacturers’ which allow us up-to-date and detailed knowledge of the products we sell. You can trust Linwood Supply, Inc to provide legal and expert knowledge to reach these decisions based on your needs, not based on what’s on special today. Our goal is to help you make your goals a reality.

Michael Haile, PCA # 70115

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Contact us at; Linwood Supply, Inc
PO Box 463
Dixon, California; 707 678-5087
Visit our website at:
www.LinwoodSupply.com
Email: Info@Linwoodsupply.com
Portions of

CALIFORNIA FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE
SECTION 11401-11472.1

11402. "License" means pest control business license, agricultural pest control adviser's license, or pest control dealer's license.

11404. "Pesticide" is defined in Section 12753.

11407. "Pest control dealer" means any person, including any manufacturer, distributor, or retailer who engages in any of the following business activities:
   (a) Selling pesticides to users for an agricultural use.
   (b) Selling to users any method or device for the control of agricultural pests, such as biological agents, lures, or insect-trapping devices.
   (c) Soliciting sales of pesticides by making agricultural use recommendations through field representatives, or other agents.
   (d) Selling to a user a pesticide classified pursuant to Section 14004.5 as a restricted material that requires either a permit for possession and use or which may be used only by or under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.

11408. "Agricultural use" means the use of any pesticide or method or device for the control of plant or animal pests, or any other pests, or the use of any pesticide for the regulation of plant growth or defoliation of plants. It excludes the sale or use of pesticides in properly labeled packages or containers that are intended for any of the following:
   (a) Home use.
   (b) Use in structural pest control.
   (c) Industrial or institutional use.

11410. "Agricultural pest control adviser" means any person who offers a recommendation on any agricultural use, who holds himself or herself forth as an authority on any agricultural use, or who solicits services or sales for any agricultural use.

11411. "Recommendation" means the giving of any instruction or advice on any agricultural use as to any particular application on any particular piece of property.