



# STORAGE CHECKLIST



## Checklist for safe, small-scale storage of Animal Health and Crop Protection Products

**THIS EASY-TO-USE CHECKLIST** will help farmers and other commercial users comply with laws and standards relating to the storage of agricultural compounds.

These publications are convenient guides only, and should be used in conjunction with the industry standard, the (Growsafe) *Management of Agrichemicals*, NZS 8409:2004. All commercial users of animal health and crop protection products are encouraged by Agcarm to become Growsafe-accredited.

**Important:** Always seek expert advice before building storage facilities for agricultural compounds, where the storage requirements for specific products need clarification, or where circumstances differ from those covered by the Agcarm guideline or the Growsafe standard. Large growers and contractors may store enough product to require compliance with the HSNO Act. A useful table of quantities that trigger these HSNO requirements is printed on pages 119 - 122 of NZS 8409:2004.

### Important

Safe and secure storage of animal health products (AHPs) and crop protection products (CPPs) is essential:

- To ensure compliance with the law.
- To protect people, animals and the environment.

Users as persons in charge of a workplace are legally required to take all practical steps to provide a safe place of work, to provide for appropriately trained personnel (for example, approved handlers may be required), to provide procedures for dealing with emergencies, and to protect the environment.

### The Store

A stand-alone building is best. Otherwise, for small quantities, use secure lockers or dangerous goods approved cabinets in an existing building. Temporary stores or transit depots must also meet the same standards required of a permanent storage place. A transit depot is a permanent place where packaged hazardous substances may be held for a maximum period of 3 days, provided the containers are not opened. The transit depot is an integral part of the transport system when substances are passing through; for example freight forwarders yards, airstrips, etc.

### Location

- ✓ Away from obvious hazards such as incinerators, welding gear and areas where fuel or other flammable materials are stored; keep the surrounding area clear of combustible vegetation and refuse by at least 3 metres.
- ✓ Away from areas of possible pollution risk: to dwellings, livestock buildings, fodder, feeds, crops, milk, waterways, wells and other environmentally sensitive areas - both during normal operation and in the event of a spill or fire; keep away from any dwelling or property boundary.

### Facilities

- ✓ Secure and able to be locked - no entry or access by children, unauthorised persons, livestock, pets, birds, vermin.
- ✓ Sound, ✓ dry, ✓ ventilated and ✓ well lit.
- ✓ Intrinsically safe lighting if required (may be needed if handling flammables).
- ✓ Comply with local by-laws and regional council plans.
- ✓ Has a hazardous substance location test certificate (if required) from a Test Certifier.
- ✓ Floor sealed and bunded, or with drip trays that will contain the spillage of 50% of the total liquid stored.
- ✓ For 200 litre drums and Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBC's), a secondary containment system able to contain 100% of the total liquid quantity stored.
- ✓ The means for blocking stormwater intakes & ✓ entry to any watercourse from potential escapes of spilt agrichemical (sandbags).
- ✓ Spill kit that includes dry adsorbant and containment pads or socks.
- ✓ Water supply and delivery hose for clean up, rinsing and ✓ firefighting.

- ✓ Special storage provision (such as protection from ignition sources) for flammable products.
- ✓ Special storage provision (such as protection from ignition sources) for oxidising substances (including class 5 fertilisers).
- ✓ Good, clear unobstructed access for people, forklifts and other vehicles.
- ✓ Sound, stable workbench that has an impervious surface able to cope with spillage of the products being used.
- ✓ Measuring equipment, ✓ nitrile gloves, ✓ face shield and/or eye protection.
- ✓ Protective clothing and gas-impervious container for storage of facemask and spare filters.
- ✓ Eyewash facilities, ✓ first aid equipment and ✓ emergency phone numbers.
- ✓ Fire protection; at least ✓ one 4.5 kg multi-purpose dry powder extinguisher and ✓ fire hose mounted outside the store.
- ✓ Signage: ✓ 'No Smoking' and the ✓ orange ('AGRICHEMICALS, HAZCHEM 2WE') sign; ✓ other signs if required (for example, by the HSNO regulations).

## Store Management

### Personnel

- ✓ A nominated Growsafe-accredited person in charge, and an ✓ approved handler-qualified person available if needed (if the quantities of hazardous agrichemicals stored require one to be present/available).

### Emergency Plan

- ✓ Plan covering spillage, fire, poisoning and earthquake scenarios; includes ✓ staff training, ✓ safety data sheets and HazNotes, ✓ emergency response telephone numbers, an ✓ up to date product manifest.
- ✓ Obtain a sample template from ERMA's website.
- ✓ Plan kept in an accessible, waterproof place outside the store.

### Records, stock control, product information

- ✓ Product inventory or manifest maintained up-to-date and ✓ kept away from the store.
- ✓ The person in charge is able to make available to staff or emergency services safety information (safety data sheets) for all products stored within a 5 minute timeframe.
- ✓ Records kept of tracked products [eg: those with 6.1A, 6.1B, 6.1C & 6.7A status].
- ✓ Old products used first ✓ outdated products removed.
- ✓ An up-to-date *IVS Annual* (AHPs) or *Novachem Manual* (CPPs).

## Storage of products

- ✓ New containers checked on arrival; leaking containers rejected.
- ✓ Animal health and crop protection products only.
- ✓ No food, ✓ no fuels, ✓ no nitrate fertilisers, ✓ no explosives, ✓ no pool chemicals.
- ✓ Containers stacked safely (see under '**Stacking**').
- ✓ Facility and containers kept clean, spills cleaned up.

## Container Care

- ✓ Original containers only (not reused), with ✓ original, legible labels.
- ✓ Store containers so labels can be read.
- ✓ No food or drink containers.
- ✓ Empty containers triple-rinsed, and recycled via the 'Agrecovery' program [www.agrecovery.co.nz](http://www.agrecovery.co.nz) or Freephone: 0800 247 326.

## Product Segregation

- ✓ Use products on first-in/first-out basis.
- ✓ Drenches, vaccines (and syringes, etc) stored away from dips and CPPs.
- ✓ Keep vaccines and sensitive products away from the light; ✓ refrigerate where necessary.
- ✓ Store flammables and strong oxidising agents away from incompatible substances, including acids.
- ✓ Group highly toxic and dangerous products that are tracked substances [6.1A,B,C] together (including fumigants), under lock and key.
- ✓ Store herbicides as far away as possible from insecticides and fungicides.
- ✓ Flammable substances may need to be stored in a special fire-rated part of the store; an approved metal cabinet is a good solution.
- ✓ Keep powder, liquid and aerosol formulations separate (liquids at low level or floor level and always below powders or granular products).
- ✓ Use low-hazard products as separation barriers between incompatible substances.

## Stacking

- ✓ Shelving has an impervious surface able to cope with spillage of the products being used.
- ✓ Store liquids on bottom shelf with powders and granules above.
- ✓ Store 20 litre steel drums no more than two high per pallet and no more than four pallets high.
- ✓ Store 20 litre plastic drums no more than two high per pallet and no more than two pallets high.
- ✓ Granular and pelletised products such as hazardous oxidisers of Class 5 should be limited to a width of 2 pallets, a maximum height of 4 pallets and a length of 8 pallets when stored in paper or plastic lined polyprop sacks.
- ✓ Cardboard/paper containers stacked off floors and away from exterior walls (keep dry).

**For more information, please contact your supplier or Agcarm**

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