

Criteria for Pesticide and Fertilizer Storage

Pesticides

All pesticide storage facilities must be single purpose facilities.

1. Cargo Container or “sea-can”

The purchase of a cargo container or “sea can” as a means to store pesticide products is an approved practice under category 1201. The unit must adhere to the program standards as noted below.

- **Proper ventilation** is required (the 8X8 vent present on this type of container is not adequate) Proper ventilation would include roof or side wall ventilation either by natural or mechanical means to prevent the accumulation of toxic or flammable vapours.
- The installation of a **man door** to allow for a separate means of entering and exiting the unit in case of an emergency is required.
- Unit must be **clearly labelled** with a “Danger-Stored Pesticide” sign printed in block letters five centimetres or more in heights posted near entrance.
- **An Impermeable Floor with a lip** is required. All containers will require a chemical resistant liner to be installed regardless of the type of floor that is present.

2. Storage Options for Treated Seed

Treated seed is considered to be an environmental risk as the seed is already treated with the chemicals (whether it is a herbicide or a pesticide).

- It should be stored in a dry facility;
- The installation of a small building package no larger than 24'x26' or 630 square feet has been identified as a sound means to store treated agricultural products. The building must adhere to the guidelines associated with the installation of a sea container as noted above. In addition, the building must be constructed on a curbed concrete foundation to allow for a means of containment.

3. Upright locking locker

Is an option for people who have small containers of chemical to store.

- Industrial upright storage lockers are available from safety suppliers and are designed to provide a means of storing small amounts of product in a common, secure area.
- The locker must be designed for this purpose in that it must be ventilated, lockable and clearly labeled with a "Danger - Stored Pesticide" label or sign.

Fertilizers

1. Secondary Containment Guidelines

Secondary containment for liquid fertilizer tanks is required as part of BMP 1201. The following are CSFSP requirements and design standards which are available to assist you in developing a quality, eligible secondary containment system for your tanks.

- The tank must be located at a minimum distance of 30 meters from any water body. Water bodies include wetlands, dugouts, reservoirs and watercourses.
- The tank must be located at a minimum distance of 30 meters away from any farm wells.
- Areas with a known high water table should be avoided if possible.
- The tank must be a commercially compatible vessel capable of storing liquid fertilizer products.
- Must be capable of containing 110% of the tank (if only have one tank) or 100% of the largest tank's volume plus 10% of each additional tank.
 - If have small tanks, it must be capable of containing 110% of largest tank.
(This can either be a sealed concrete design or a structure using an impermeable liner material capable of containing liquid fertilizer products).
- An impermeable liner material capable of containing the liquid fertilizer product must be used.

Additional Considerations:

Below is a list of project siting and design considerations that you may wish to include when planning construction of your fertilizer storage unit.

- Locate bin at least 40 meters away from roadway
- Prepare soil around the site to provide a compacted sub-base foundation and to decrease permeability.
- Ensure proper site suitability with respect to soil load bearing capacity and susceptibility to frost heave.
- Conduct regular visual inspections for leaks and spills.
- If possible, locate tank over clay soils or till and in an area where groundwater is not within 15 meters of the surface. Contact your local Agri-environmental Services Branch (AESB) office for more information about ground water levels in your area.
- Develop an emergency response plan for containment of any spills and for the prevention of site contamination.
- Treated lumber or a steel containment ring can be used to create a containment frame.
- An earthen berm may also be constructed; however an impermeable liner is still required.