



Pesticides and Cross Compliance



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What are “Pesticides”?

The term “Pesticides” reflects 2 types of products that may be stored or used on a farm, namely, plant protection products (PPP's) and biocides.

Plant Protection Products (PPP's)

PPP's are products that are used to protect crops from damage caused by insects, fungi, weeds or pests. They include herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, molluscicides, growth regulators etc.

Biocides

Biocides are products that are used to prevent the action of a wide range of harmful organisms. They include rodenticides, wood preservatives, dairy detergents / sanitizers, disinfectants etc.

Any end-user storing or using pesticides should ensure that they are in compliance with the regulatory requirements regarding pesticides. This involves proper storage, appropriate use, accurate record keeping and where relevant, safe disposal.

Cross-Compliance Inspection for SMR 9 - Pesticides

During the course of a cross-compliance inspection on a holding where pesticides are stored or have been used during the previous 12 months the following questions will be among those addressed.

Are PPP's and Biocides segregated from food and feed?

Pesticides must not be stored near to or above food or feed.

Are storage facilities used dedicated to the storage of chemicals and are they enclosed secure and constructed so as to retain any spillages?

A chemical store can be defined as a stand-alone building, container, a press/cupboard/cabinet/filing cabinet, which is independently lockable, and is capable of containing spillages appropriate the volumes stored in it. It is advisable that such a store is ventilated. The store should be used exclusively for the storage of pesticides.

Is there a warning sign displayed at the entrance?

This can either be a purpose made sign or clearly hand printed by using an indelible marker.

Are powders stored separately from or above liquids?

Liquid formulations and dry formulations must be stored in a manner that precludes a spillage of the liquids from contaminating the dry formulations.

Are PPP's and biocidal products stored in their original containers and/or in good condition and/or with label attached?

All products should be stored in their original containers and the label should be attached and should be legible.

Are scales and are graduated measures (e.g. jugs) present and designated solely for weighing / measuring plant protection and biocidal products available?

Designated measuring equipment (graduated measures) must be available for all pesticides present on the farm.

Are facilities for soaking up small spillages or leakages available?

A bucket of sand, peat or other absorbent material should be present where chemicals are stored.

Are protective clothing and equipment available and are they clean and properly maintained?

Gloves, overalls, rubber boots, and if appropriate, other personal protective equipment (PPE) must be available and well maintained

Are records of purchases, acquisitions and of disposal or return of plant protection and biocidal products maintained?

Records of purchases must be maintained for all pesticides.

Are records of use of plant protection and biocidal products maintained?

Records of use of plant protection and biocidal products such as crop record sheets for various quality assurance schemes, showing date of application, crop, material or surface treated, area treated, brand name, PCS number, quantity of product applied must be maintained.

Has the application equipment been used in the previous 12 months? And if yes, has the application equipment been calibrated?

All application equipment in use must be calibrated.