

Storage

A pesticide store - must

- be a dedicated store, not used for any purpose other than the storage of plant protection and biocidal products
- be secure, locked, well-lit and of sound construction using non-absorbent material
- display appropriate signage on the outside of the store
- in the case of a walk-in store be well ventilated
- retain any spillages or have bunding adequate to prevent any seepage to or contamination of any watercourses (*surface or ground water*).
- have a supply of absorbent material to deal with small spillages
- have a list of emergency contact numbers at the entrance to the store, e.g. Doctor, Fire services, etc

should

- have a supply of clean water nearby
- be equipped with a first aid kit (eyewash)
- be equipped with an appropriate grade fire extinguisher
- be operated on a *first-in-first-out* stock control system

Products should be stored

- only in original packaging
- in a segregated manner
 - flammable products should be separated from non-flammable.
 - powders should be stored on shelves above liquids
 - water-soluble packs must be kept away from sources of dampness.

Only purchase products that are currently registered!

Details of products currently registered may be found by searching by product name, by active substance or by function/crop on our website at www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie under the heading **products**.

Additional useful information on plant protection and biocidal products is posted on the website from time to time.

Handling and Use

Before using plant protection or biocidal products it is important to

- read the product label and the instructions for use
- ensure that personal protective equipment (PPE) is clean and in good condition
- ensure that measuring equipment designated and labelled for measuring product is clean and in good condition
- ensure that application equipment is in good working condition and is **correctly calibrated**
- calculate the amount of product needed

When using plant protection products or biocides it is important to

- comply with instructions for use printed on the label
- wear appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment
- where possible use a closed transfer system or low level induction to transfer product to the sprayer. Where this is not possible, pour slowly to avoid glugging or splash back of liquids
- use one container at a time
- **Triple-rinse*** or pressure rinse the container and add the rinsate to the sprayer
- measuring equipment should be similarly cleaned and rinsate added to spray tank
- avoid drift and take care when applying close to watercourses
- check application equipment frequently during operation

After application, it is important to

- clean application equipment thoroughly, both inside and outside
- thoroughly wash protective gloves, face shield etc.

Always wash hands before meals and after work!

* **Triple rinse:** pack contents should be drained for at least 30 seconds when emptying the container into the spray tank. $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ fill with clean water, securely close and shake vigorously. Add the rinsate to the spray tank. Repeat this process at least twice or until the container is clean. The container should be stored upside down with the lid off to dry.

Disposal

Due care and attention must be given to the issue of disposal of unused product concentrate, unused dilute spray and empty containers.

Waste should be minimised through good management.

- only purchase the amount of product required
- only mix the required amount of diluted spray for the area to be treated
- always keep an untreated area to allow the disposal of excess diluted spray material
- dispose of obsolete concentrate using a specialist hazardous waste disposal company

Record Keeping

The records to be maintained are of three types, *products acquired, products applied or used and products returned or disposed of*

For each product received into store, record

Product Name	PCS No.	Pack Size	Quantity	Supplier	Date

For each product applied or used, record

Product Name	PCS No	Area treated		Quantity applied		Date applied
		location	crop area	of pesticide	of water	

For each product returned and for disposals, record

Product Name	PCS No.	Pack Size	Quantity	Disposal Company	Date of disposal



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AGRICULTURE & FOOD
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Storing and Using Plant Protection and Biocidal Products



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