

Spotlight On Safety

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Pesticide Storage

Pesticide storage facilities must meet minimum requirements to prevent accidental releases to the environment and protect the safety of personnel working within them. The following guidelines are intended to assist personnel in designing and using pesticide storage areas for agricultural use.

Storage Facilities

- Storage facilities must be securely locked when not in use to prevent unauthorized access
- Storage areas must be kept clean and uncluttered
- Floor drains are prohibited (prevents accidental release into the sewer system)
- Facilities must be ventilated by rotary vents or mechanical ventilation to prevent accidental respiratory exposure (a strong pesticide odor indicates the need for better ventilation)
- Adequate electrical or natural lighting must be provided
- If pesticides are mixed at the facility, potable water must be provided for readily access to emergency showers and eyewashes (applies to Category I and II pesticides only)
- Floors and shelves must be resistant to moisture (concrete floors and wooden shelves must be sealed with latex or epoxy paint to facilitate cleaning)
- Shelves must have edges that act as secondary containment for spills
- All doors must have a legible warning sign (at a distance of 25 ft from any direction)
- The name, address, and phone number of nearest emergency medical facility must be posted

Storage Containers

- Pesticide containers must be secured to keep them from tipping over
- If primary containers are damaged, secondary containers must be provided and labeled
- Triple-rinse, puncture and drain empty containers before discarding
- **Never** store pesticides in containers that have been used for food
- Open bags of pesticides must be enclosed in properly labeled secondary containers

Storage

- Insecticides and fungicides must not be stored on the same shelves as herbicides
- Experimental pesticides or those being used under "blind" conditions must carry a label equivalent, including pesticide name or code number, type (insecticide/ herbicide/ rodenticide, etc.), crop, hazards, required protective equipment, date of receipt and experiment termination, custodian name and the words "**For experimental use only**"
- Any diluted pesticide (spray rigs) must be labeled with name of pesticide, signal word (Danger/ Warning/ Caution), custodian name/ phone number, and date of dilution
- Pesticides must not be stored directly on the floor unless doubly contained
- Pesticides in pressurized containers must be stored and transported within the temperature range stated on manufacturing labels
- Pesticides must not be transported or stored in the passenger area of vehicles. Hazardous materials must be transported in a university vehicle

Visit www.ehs.ucr.edu for additional information or call EH&S at 827-5528 if you have any questions.