Pesticide Storage

Proper storage protects...

People

Animals

Environment





It also prevents...

- Damage to the pesticide and its container
- Theft, vandalism, and unauthorized use



Always read and follow the label



- Before purchasing the product make sure that you can meet the minimum requirements for safe storage.
- Look for statements under "Storage and Disposal", "Note", or "General Instructions".

Label statements

- Mostly general
 - "store in cool, dry area"
 - "Keep out of reach..."
- Some specific
 - Temperature and humidity restrictions
- Allow for state and local laws to be stricter



Material Safety Data Sheet

- Available at dealerships or on-line
- Lists physical and chemical properties
- Identifies hazards and first aid
- Provides additional handling and storage information



Choosing a location

- Locate in an area where flooding is unlikely
- Maintain a 50-100 ft. distance from wells, surface waters, animal feeding stations.



Storage building

- Several options to explore
- High volume of pesticides should be stored in their own facility
- Many plans have engineering specs for mix/load area with storage and cleanup facilities



Size depends on need

- Storage shed
- Portable storage unit
- Designated area inside another facility







Cabinets for small amounts





Key features of all storage facilities

- Prevent unauthorized access
- Protect the environment
- Maintain appropriate conditions

Keep it secure



- Make sure all entrances are locked when not in use
- Gated entrances should be locked as well
- Limit access to keys

Security lighting helps deter crime





Post warning signs at entrances









Protecting the environment

- Floors should be made of non-porous material, free of cracks
- Allows for easier cleanup
- Construct floors with
 2- to 4-inch below the
 level of the doors to
 contain large spills





The problem with drains



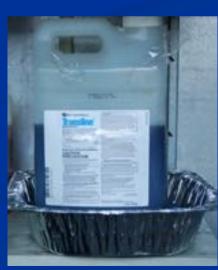
- Existing floor drains must be sealed unless connected to a tank that can be cleaned out
- Outflow must be captured and disposed as hazardous waste

Non-absorbent shelving material

- Metal shelves with lip to contain spills
- Wooden shelves coated with epoxy paint or plastic
- Containment trays or pans







Proper Conditions: Ventilation and Humidity

- Constant ventilation needed to remove vapors, excess heat, and humidity
- Provides safe conditions for workers and extends shelf life of pesticides
- Use exhaust fans or passive vents
- Exhaust air directly to outside
- May be reduced in winter





Proper Conditions: Temperature

- Maintain temps between40 and 100 degrees F.
- Freezing may cause chemical separation and container failure
- Excess heat may cause explosion or fire
- Minimize fire hazards if you provide heating





Consider spark-proof electrical fixtures and controls





Which one of the following is not an important feature of a storage facility?

- a. Locked entrances
- b. Ventilation
- c. High-peaked roof
- d. Warning signs

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The answer is c.

The minimum distance between a storage facility and a well is:

- a. 25 feet
- b. 50 feet
- c. 75 feet
- d. 100 feet

The minimum distance between a storage facility and a well is:

- a. 25 feet
- ь. **50 feet**
- c. 75 feet
- d. 100 feet

The answer is b.

A practical temperature range to maintain inside storage facilities is:

- a. 40 to 100 degrees F
- b. 60 to 80 degrees F
- c. 30 to 90 degrees F
- d. 50 to 110 degrees F

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The answer is a.

Storage rules

- Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the storage area.
- Do not store
 pesticides in a way
 that could
 contaminate seed or
 animal feed.



Storage rules

Never store pesticides in milk jugs, soft drink bottles, fruit jars, or medicine bottles.

Do not keep gasoline or other combustibles with

pesticides.





Safe storage practices/rules

- Use original labeled container
- If container is damaged, transfer to a container suitable for the pesticide
- If product label is damaged or becomes unreadable, print the following minimum information on container or tag
 - Common name
 - Percentage of each active ingredient
 - > EPA registration number
 - Signal word
 - Use classification (restricted or general use)

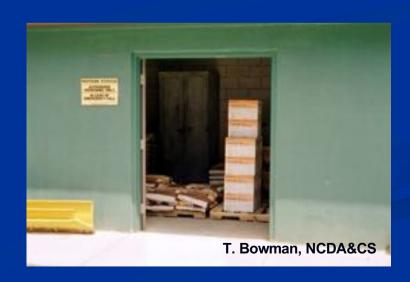




Safe storage practices

- Keep storage area organized and clean of debris
- Inspect containers regularly
- Keep metal containers and bags off the floor
- Place heavier containers and liquids on lower shelves.





Safe storage practices

- If practical, store highly flammable/ volatile pesticides separately
- Designate a bin or area for containers prepared for recycling



Be prepared for mishaps

- Provide clean water in case of contact with skin or eyes
- If running water not practical, store water in a large container

First Aid Kit

Keep a first aid kit nearby





Spill cleanup

- Spill kit: absorbent, broom, shovel, and a container with lid
- More supplies may be needed for high storage volumes
- Check MSDS for materials needed to deactivate spills





Personal Protective Equipment



- PPE should be kept nearby, but not in the storage room to prevent contamination
- May be needed to respond to spills before entering storage area

Plan for emergencies

- Train workers on how to respond to spills, fires and other emergencies
- Keep a fire extinguisher that is approved for chemical fires nearby
- Inspect the extinguisher on a regular basis



The best way to store pesticides is in:

- a. Any empty pesticide container
- b. Glass bottles
- c. Any unbreakable container
- d. The original, labeled container

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The answer is d.

When a pesticide label gets unreadable:

- Throw the container away following state regulations for proper disposal
- b. Write the important information on the container with permanent marker
- c. Request that the pesticide company send you new product
- d. Use the pesticide immediately

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