

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR STORAGE

This section is designed for those in the industry who are involved in the operation of storage depots. However, everyone should understand the general principles regarding the responsible and safe handling of fertilisers in this context.

Note: There are State and Federal **Transport, Transport and Storage of Dangerous Goods** and **Occupational Health and Safety** Regulations which have to be observed. Ignorance of the law is no defense and all AFSA members will be familiar with them. Each worksite will ensure the appropriate Acts, Legislation and Regulations, relating to their operations, are available for staff to peruse at any time. There are no assessment events for these government requirements.

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>STRATEGY</i>
2.1 Spillage	FERTILISER PRODUCTS WILL BE CONFINED WITHIN THE STORAGE PERIMETER
2.1.1 <i>Trucks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator will ensure that all trucks leaving a storage area will be loaded in such a way that there is no spillage beyond the perimeter.
2.1.2 <i>Depots</i> Entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator will ensure the entrances to, and exits from the depot will be used in such a way as to minimise drift of dust beyond the perimeter.
Floors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator will ensure that floor surfaces are swept clean of fertiliser sufficiently frequently to prevent tracking by vehicles beyond the perimeter.
2.2 Drift	FERTILISER PRODUCTS WILL BE CONFINED WITHIN THE STORAGE PERIMETER.
2.2.1 <i>Location</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New storage facilities should be located and constructed in such a way as to minimise fertiliser drift off site given the local prevailing wind conditions.
2.2.2 <i>Drift from storage sites</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator will suspend for as long as is practical any operation which, because of weather conditions, is causing fertiliser dust to drift onto other areas.
2.3 Run off	FERTILISER PRODUCTS WILL BE CONFINED WITHIN THE STORAGE AREA.
2.3.1 <i>Depots</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator will ensure that spilled fertiliser is swept up and disposed of in an approved manner.• Where floors are washed clean, the wastewater will be disposed of in an approved manner.
2.3.2 <i>Dumps</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The owner / operator / driver will ask the customer to indicate level ground where storage dumps can be located on farm to prevent run off from within the loading perimeter into

environmentally sensitive sites, such as waterways.

- It is the responsibility of the owner / operator to provide the covers for a temporary dump and to clarify with the customer that he/she is responsible for ensuring that the fertiliser stored in such dumps is maintained as per manufacturer's specifications and guidelines.

2.4 Contamination

EACH SPECIFIED FERTILISER PRODUCT WILL BE KEPT IN A SEPARATE STORAGE POSITION.

2.4.1 Product

- The owner / operator will be able to identify the different fertilisers received from depots and manufacturers and maintain an accurate storage manifest.
- The owner / operator will ensure that:
 1. The specific products and blends are kept segregated at all times.
 2. The contents of all storage bays, bins and hoppers are clearly labeled.
 3. When changing from one product to another, all storage, loading and blending plant and equipment is cleaned from all residues.

2.4.2 Biologically active products

- The owner / operator will ensure that storage and transport surfaces are kept free from these products, especially if re-using bags.

2.5 Occupational Health

CONTACT BETWEEN FERTILISER PRODUCTS, PEOPLE AND LIVESTOCK WILL BE MINIMISED.

2.5.1 Contact with people and livestock

- It is the responsibility of the owner / operator / driver to ensure that direct contact with fertiliser and inhalation of fertiliser dust is minimised and that customers are made aware that there are State, Federal, local and industry regulations which have to be observed.

2.6 Occupational Safety

EQUIPMENT USED IN STORES WILL BE OPERATED ONLY WITHIN ESTABLISHED SAFETY LIMITS.

2.6.1 Warning signs

- The owner / operator will ensure as a Duty of Care that warning signs are displayed regarding constant hazards and exclusion zones.

2.6.2 Routine Maintenance

Plant

- The owner / operator will ensure that all plant used in operating the depot / store is visually inspected each week, or more frequently according to maintenance manuals, to identify what maintenance is required to ensure safe operation.

Equipment

- All equipment will be maintained according to manufacturers' instruction manuals.

2.7 Sound Practice

THE RIGHT PRODUCT WILL BE LOADED IN THE RIGHT CONDITION TO THE RIGHT WEIGHT.

2.7.1 Right Product

- The operator / owner will check with a second person, who has undertaken the Training Package, that the store product

identification matches the product and is “true-to-type” prior to loading.

2.7.2 Right Conditions – dumps

- The owner / operator will organise storage so that the fertiliser product is stored and used within a sufficiently short period of time to comply with the manufacturers’ specifications, especially regarding moisture content.

2.7.3 Right Weight

Plant

- The owner / operator will ensure that all load cells, scales and weighbridges conform to statutory requirements and are checked according to State regulations. Proof of such checking will be available for inspection.

Documentation

- The owner / operator will ensure that the total of the weighings related to dispatches to fill an order match the total ordered.