

ELEMENT 4  
WORKPLACE HAZARDOUS  
MATERIAL INFORMATION  
SYSTEM (WHMIS)  
*Participant Booklet*

Year 1 Learning Module  
Farm Safety Risk Assessment Updates  
June /July 2023



# General Information

This booklet and the accompanying presentation have been developed by AgSafe Alberta for the Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) for the purpose of advancing health and safety on EFA member operations.

The print materials, tools, courses and webinars are intended to be used as resources only. Each farm will need to customize its approach to health and safety and may need to make any forms or templates used farm-specific in order to address the particular needs, factors, applicable legislated requirements, etc.

The individual, farm owner, corporation or other user of any of the resources, tools, courses and/or webinars developed by AgSafe Alberta, does upon their use or dissemination of for themselves, their heirs, successors, assigns, officers, directors, agents and employees (individually and collectively referred to as the "Operator") acknowledge and agree that there are inherent risks, damages, and hazards associated with farming, including, but not limited to those as may be noted in the aforementioned items, and specifically accepts and fully assumes all risk, damage and hazards and the possibility of personal injury or death or property damage arising there from.

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For information on the Alberta FarmSafe Plan, contact AgSafe Alberta:  
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403-219-7901 | [agsafeab.ca](http://agsafeab.ca)

## IMPORTANT

This booklet contains important information and worksheets that will help you in fulfilling the requirements of Element 4. The AgSafe Alberta FarmSafe Plan Manual as well as downloadable and customizable versions of the documents contained here can be found at [www.agsafeab.ca](http://www.agsafeab.ca).

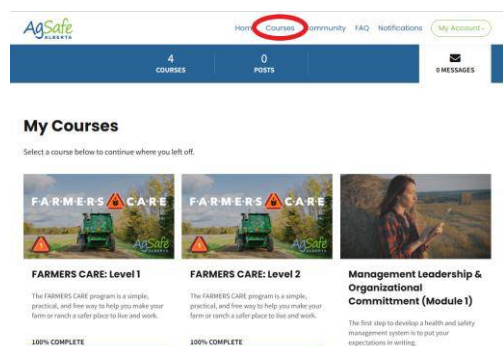
# Part One

Register for and complete the AgSafe Alberta WHMIS 2015, Pesticide, Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Awareness Course and become familiar with key terms.

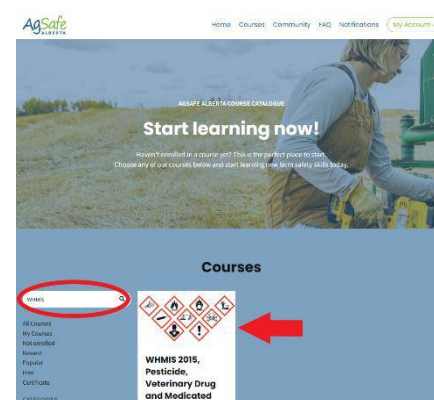
To better understand and meet the requirements of this element, it is recommended that you and the other members of your farm team complete AgSafe Alberta's *WHMIS 2015, Pesticide, Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Awareness Course*.

Each person who takes this course will need to create their own individual user account (this will also require their own unique email address). Visit to [www.agsafeab.ca](http://www.agsafeab.ca) or go directly to [www.agsafeabseed.ca](http://www.agsafeabseed.ca) to register.

Once you have registered as a SEED user, click on the **Courses** tab at the top of the screen.



Type **WHMIS** into the search function, and it will bring up the course.



When signing each person up for the course, it is important that you use the promo code **EFA2023**.



## KEY TERMS

**General WHMIS 2015 Training** introduces farm team members to the elements of WHMIS 2015, such as hazard groups, hazard classes, hazard categories, pictograms, signal words, hazard statements, precautionary statements, labels, and safety data sheets. Completion of the AgSafe Alberta WHMIS 2015, Pesticide, Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Awareness Course would meet the requirement of general WHMIS training.

**Enterprise-Specific WHMIS 2015 Training** is commonly called **workplace-specific** or **farm-specific WHMIS 2015 training**. This type of training would include:

- An inventory of the hazardous products used at the workplace.
- The hazards of these products used.
- The farm's procedures and safe work practices for using these products.
- Any required hazard controls and how to use them.
- Any personal protective equipment to be used.
- Workplace specific emergency response procedures (i.e., first aid, spill and release procedures).
- Where copies of safety data sheets are located and how to access them.
- Safe storage, handling and disposal methods used by the farm.

## Part Two

Create a list of the hazardous products, pesticides, veterinary drugs and medicated feeds used by the enterprise (egg barns).

Knowing what you have on hand and where it is located is a good starting point. You can find the *AgSafe Alberta Hazardous Product, Pesticide, Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Worksheet* on the page that follows to help you get started. Completing this worksheet will support you in meeting the requirement of having a list of products.



## Part Three

Use the *Product Checklist* on the following page or some other means to gain a better understanding of the hazards, and hazard control measures needed for, the products used on your farm.

The *Product Checklist* form will support you in identifying the hazards, controlling the hazards as well as in creating procedures and safe work practices. Remember, this checklist may not reflect all of the important information that must be considered, acted upon or communicated and outside support may be needed at some points.

Using a copy of the SDS, product label, product insert and/or other document, highlight the information that corresponds to the information found on the checklist and attach a copy of the highlighted document to the back of the *Product Checklist*. This would support the requirement of having reviewed product labels, product information and/or safety data sheets (SDSs) for prevention and emergency preparedness purposes.

The *Product Checklist* includes a space where the risk rating of the product can be recorded. It is not necessary to include a risk rating, but if you don't, how can you accurately identify what the most hazardous products on your farm are?

- The best way to assign a risk rating would be to complete a hazard assessment for the product and its use, storage and handling. You can refer back to Element 1 and use the risk matrix located there (alternatively, if your farm already uses a different risk matrix, you can use that one).

# PRODUCT CHECKLIST

Farm Name		Date Completed	
Product Name		Risk Rating	
Product Type		Location / Building	

Yes	No	N/A	Need to Find	Description
				Physical state (liquid, solid, compressed gas)
				Color & odor
				Flammability
				pH (7.0 is neutral, above 7.0 is basic, below 7.0 is acidic)
				Reactivity, chemical stability & possible reactions
				Recommended use
				Restrictions on use
				General hazards and risks associated with the product (explosion, corrosive to metal, etc.)
				Human health hazards and risks associated with the product (cancer, corrosive to tissue, toxic, etc.)
				Animal health hazards and risks associated with the product (toxic to horses, cancer, etc.)
				Environmental hazards and risks associated with the product (persistence, mobility in soil, ecotoxicity, etc.)
				Common routes of exposure
				Signs or symptoms of an exposure
				First aid measures, medical attention and special treatment (if required)
				Fire-fighting measures (what to use, hazards, special precautions, special PPE, etc.)
				Accidental release measures/spill (precautions, PPE, methods & materials for cleanup, emergency measures, etc.)
				Safe handling measures, safe handling precautions, hazard control measures for safe handling (ventilated areas, PPE required, etc.)
				Safe storage measures (container types, ventilation, grounded or bonded containers, incompatible products, etc.)
				Special transport considerations
				Disposal methods (triple rinse & puncture, bleach, enclave, etc.)
				Approved disposal locations / sites
				Who can use this product (certified pesticide applicators, others)

**Additional Comments:**

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date

**IMPORTANT:** RETAIN A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT IN YOUR FARM RECORDS.



## Part Four

One of the requirements of this element is to ensure the people on your farm can identify where product labels, product information and safety data sheets can be located.

It is important to ensure that the people working on your farm know where to find this information and that they can easily access it when needed. You can include this in your worker training as outlined in the next part of this booklet.

In Element 5, we will be learning about and creating facility (building) maps and farm site maps. These maps are helpful and should include the location of the hazardous products and the location of health and safety related information, such as product labels, product information and safety data sheets.

## Part Five

Worker training is essential, and it needs to be recorded in some form.

In order to obtain full marks, the other people working on your enterprise (that is, in your egg barns) will need to be trained:

- To an awareness level (that is, to read and understand a label/insert/SDS and how to apply that information).
  - This can be achieved through completing the AgSafe Alberta *WHMIS 2015, Pesticide, Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Awareness Course* that you learned about in Part 1 of this booklet.
  - Completing this course and keeping a copy of the certificate on file would meet the requirement of having the people performing the work completing a general WHMIS 2015 course that has been documented.
  - It is advisable to complete all three modules; this is because you will likely have all three types of products on the farm. For example, 'chicken dust' used to control mites typically contains diatomaceous earth in combination with insecticides and other powdery substances making it a type of pesticide.
  - Note that other WHMIS 2015 courses could also meet this requirement.
  
- On farm-specific information, such as:
  - What hazardous products are used on the farm.
  - What hazardous products they will be working with or around, the hazards of these products and the hazard control measures in place.
  - Signs and symptoms of exposure as well as emergency response measures.
  - The farm's procedures and safe work practices for using these products.
  - How to use the hazard control measures in place, such as a ventilation system and any PPE.
  - Workplace specific emergency response procedures (i.e., first aid, spill and release procedures).
  - Where copies of safety data sheets are located and how to access them.
  - Who to go to for help when they don't understand something, or a problem is found.
  - Safe storage, handling and disposal methods used by the farm.

**Any and all training provided should be documented in some way.** On-farm training can be recorded in several ways, including using the *Skill and Competency Evaluation Form* that you were introduced to in the Element 1 Participant Booklet or using the *Training Checklist* found on the following page; an example of a completed *Training Checklist* if also provided. Completing this form could support the requirement of workers to be trained in the existing and potential hazards of the products they are working with or near and that the people working on your farm know where to find product labels, product information and safety data sheets.

You can get more information about communication, orientation and training in the AgSafe Alberta FarmSafe Plan Manual and online FarmSafe Plan learning program. Go to [www.agsafeab.ca](http://www.agsafeab.ca) to view these and to learn more.



