

# CHEMICAL SAFETY CHECKLIST

**Disclaimer:** This is a general checklist intended to help you identify gaps in chemical safety management on your farm. There may be additional points to think about beyond what you see here.

| Chemical Storage  |            |    |   |
|-------------------|------------|----|---|
| Yes               | Needs Work | No | Question  |
|                   |            |    | When storing chemicals, are you using appropriate forms of spill containment in case of a leak?   |
|                   |            |    | Are you inspecting containers regularly to ensure labels are present and readable, that the lids are tight, and that the containers are in good overall condition?  |
|                   |            |    | Are containers protected as directed by the Safety Data Sheet? This can include protection from punctures, impacts, freezing, heating, etc.   |
|                   |            |    | Are chemicals stored away from incompatible products and materials? These will be listed in the Safety Data Sheet.  |
|                   |            |    | Are you using storage equipment designed for/appropriate for the material (e.g., flammables should be stored in a grounded flammables cabinet).   |
|                   |            |    | Are there warning signs posted?   |
|                   |            |    | Are chemicals stored away from ignition sources (e.g., heat, sparks, open flames), even if the product may not be flammable, the packaging may be.  |
|                   |            |    | How much chemical are you storing? It is best to avoid storing large quantities of products wherever possible.  |
|                   |            |    | Many commonly used products should be stored in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight and exits (or the path of travel to an exit).   |
|                   |            |    | Are there locked doors, cabinets, etc. that prevent unauthorized individuals, children, pets, and/or livestock from accessing chemicals and chemical storage areas.   |
|                   |            |    | Does everyone know not to smoke, eat, or drink in storage areas? Does everyone practice good hygiene, such as washing their hands thoroughly after working in a chemical storage areas?   |
| Chemical Handling |            |    |   |
| Yes               | Needs Work | No | Question  |
|                   |            |    | Is everyone using the product(s) properly trained? This includes not only general WHMIS training, but farm specific training as well.   |
|                   |            |    | Does everyone know to always use the smallest amount possible?  |
|                   |            |    | Before use, does everyone know to check the label and safety data sheet for information about the hazards and necessary precautions for the product being used?   |
|                   |            |    | Does everyone understand how important it is to prevent a spill, leak or release of vapour? Do they keep the lids or valves closed wherever possible?   |
|                   |            |    | Are hazard control measures taken to prevent dusts, mists, or residues from building up on surfaces/in work areas?  |
|                   |            |    | What measures are taken to avoid the chemical from coming into contact with skin, clothing, or other surfaces?  |
|                   |            |    | What measures are taken to prevent someone from inhaling dusts, mists, vapours, etc.?   |
|                   |            |    | Are products used in well-ventilated areas?   |
|                   |            |    | Are chemicals and their containers protected can include protection from punctures, impacts, freezing, heating, etc. (as directed by the safety data sheet)?  |
|                   |            |    | Are containers inspected before each use to ensure labels are present and readable, and that the containers are in good overall condition?  |
|                   |            |    | Do the people using these products know how to remove contaminated clothing and other materials carefully? Once removed, do they know how to handle, wash or discard them as directed the farm's procedures and the safety data sheet?          |
|                   |            |    | Do the people using these products know not to smoke, eat, or drink in handling or other work areas? Do they wash their hands thoroughly after handling (even if they gloves) and before eating, drinking, smoking/vaping, or using the toilet? |

| In Case of a Spill or Related Emergency |            |    |  |
|---|------------|----|--|
| Yes                                     | Needs Work | No | Question   |
|   |            |    | Do the people using the product(s) know what signs of an exposure are and how serious and exposure could be? Do they know what to do in the event of an exposure?  |
|   |            |    | Do the people using the product(s) understand the emergency procedures and spill response procedures?  |
|   |            |    | Do the people using the product(s) know what the right type of personal protective equipment (PPS) is, and is it available to them? Are the people using PPE trained in its selection, fit, use, and care? |
|   |            |    | Are the correct type of fire extinguishers available, fully charged and easy to access?  |
|   |            |    | Are eyewash stations, bottles and/or emergency showers nearby, easy to get at and ready to use?  |
|   |            |    | Are emergency response/spill response procedures readily available?  |
|   |            |    | Is response and/or spill equipment easily accessible and ready to use (this can include spill kit(s) and spill trays)? Are there enough and are they the right type?                                       |