

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ‘ONE-PAGER’

The Basics

WHAT ‘GOOD’ LOOKS LIKE...

If your farm look like this then you are successfully managing the Hazardous Substances

risk:

Inventories

- The inventory on WorkSafe’s Hazardous Substances Register reflects the types and general quantity of Hazardous Substances held on farm. The inventory has been updated in the last year
- There is a copy of the inventory online, somewhere on farm that can be accessed and given to the local Fire & Emergency NZ station for their emergency management requirements

Safety Data Sheets

- There is an up-to-date (within 5 years) Safety Data Sheet for each Hazardous Substances held. There is a copy of these sheets in the Hazardous Substances store and another available for emergency management where any worker can find it.
- Any person on the farm that is handling Hazardous Substances knows what a Safety Data Sheet is, what it’s used for and where to find them

Certification & Training

- Ensure you are aware of the location and container certification when asked
- The farm has a Certified Handler with a valid certificate. When this is within 3 months of expiring (valid for 5 years) the Certified Handler will requalify on line through GrowSafe
- Any other personal on the farm are advised of the farm’s Hazardous Substances risks

Storage & Signage

- All Hazardous Substances containers, including containers that have had substances decanted into them, are the correct type of container for the substance and have labels that clearly advise the contents and the precautions for their handling
- Hazardous Substances are secured in their own storeroom, container or cabinet, as required by the Safety Data Sheet. Incompatibles are separated. Signs correctly warn and describe the contents of the storage area.
- Hazardous chemicals shed locations are shown on the farm’s hazard map
- Hazardous Substances storage areas are kept tidy, maintained and well ventilated

PPE

- Appropriate PPE is available for those who will be handling the Hazardous Substances on the farm. Where respirators are required, individuals have their own. These must be ‘fit-tested’.

Emergency Management

- Have eyewash stations close to Hazardous Substances stores. Safety showers are available where required
- Work areas are adequately ventilated to prevent employees breathing in vapors/gases and to prevent build-up of flammable vapors
- Containers are clean and don’t contain residues of other substances that may cause a reaction.
- There is an emergency management plan for spills, fires and Hazardous substances-related injuries. All workers know these plans and how to react. The plans are practiced every six months
- The location of spill kits and fire-fighting equipment close to Hazardous Substances stores are known by all personal on farm and they know how to use them

Common Sense

- The farm has a regular clean-out day, at least every six months to get rid of old or unwanted HazSubs
- Kids on farm know that HazSubs areas are no-go zones