



Code of Best Practice **Fixed Storage of Pesticides**

Version 2. August 2020.

British Pest Control Association Code of Best Practice for Fixed Storage of Pesticides

A BPCA Code of Best Practice is a set of written rules which explains how people working in our industry should behave in a particular situation. It encompasses relevant legislation but is not the law in itself.

However, were a member to act outside of the norms outlined in the COBP, they may be subject to disciplinary action or be in breach of legislation. Members must abide by Codes of Best Practice

in their day-to-day work. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the Association.

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[bpca.org.uk/codes](https://www.bpca.org.uk/codes)
Driving excellence in pest management

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British Pest Control Association

Code of Best Practice for Fixed Storage of Pesticides

This document aims to provide information to professional users of pesticides on the important elements to remember when storing pesticides.

It will help professional users to meet their duties under relevant pesticide legislation.



Make sure doors and windows are kept locked or otherwise secure when not in use.

It contains advice on:

- Fixed stores, including purpose-built stores, converted existing buildings or parts of existing buildings
- Small-scale storage in cabinets, chests etc.

Legislation

The legislation listed below is relevant to this Code of Best Practice, and recommended for research and confirmation of compliance when considering the fixed storage of pesticides.

- Biocidal Product Regulations (label conditions) 2012
- Control of Pesticide Regs (label conditions) 1986

“This document aims to provide information to professional users of pesticides on the important elements to remember when storing pesticides.”

- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regs 2002.

Fixed storage

What are your storage needs? General Considerations

1

The store needs to be large enough to hold your peak pesticide requirements and any part-used containers.

It should also be able to cope with stock being held over due to poor weather.

2

Estimate the likely total of stock to be held at any one time – include pesticides such as rodenticides and insecticides.

3

Check if you need to make additional provision for storing any of the special classes of pesticides such as fumigants.

4

Consider the need to store other potentially harmful chemicals and allow for likely amounts.

5

Provide adequate storage for waste (hazardous and non-hazardous).

6

Check what other facilities you may need to provide.

This could include storage for contaminated equipment, personal protective equipment, washing facilities and so on.

7

Make sure cabinet stores are not located in the following places:

- domestic dwellings
- retail areas
- staffrooms
- offices
- areas where human or animal food is stored or processed.

8

All staff must know what to do in the event of a chemical spillage or fire.

9

Make sure there is ready access for pesticide deliveries or the emergency services.

10

Bundling may be achieved by standing your pesticides within a metal container of sufficient capacity, eg. a redundant water tank.

Before converting any storage tank to form a store or bund, make sure that it is suitable. The bund must not be contaminated and flammable liquids/gases must be purged.

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Make sure doors/lids and windows provide adequate security and are kept locked or otherwise secure when not in use.

12

The store itself, or the area in which it stands, should be covered by a roof.

13

Mark the exterior of the store (and where it is located within a larger building, the exterior of the building) with the general danger warning sign (triangle with an exclamation mark in the center).

14

Provide adequate shelving so that products can be seen by staff.

15

Store powders above liquids (liquids can leak if containers are damaged).

16

Provide adequate lighting so that you can read the labels.

17

Protect stocks against frost. Oil heaters, gas heaters or electrical equipment with exposed elements are not suitable.

Avoid storing plastic containers in direct sunlight – shade windows if necessary.

If pallets are used to keep stocks off the floor, make sure they don't present a tripping hazard and that the bunding capacity remains adequate.

18

Provide a suitable spillage kit.

19

Keep a record of 'maximum stock held'.

20

Provide a fire extinguisher and eye wash facilities in case of chemical contamination.

21

Ensure that the site is assessed for

risk, this could be in the form of a site plan or a risk assessment. MSDS sheets must be available for all products stored. This can be either hard copy or digital format, so long as it is easily accessible.

This document is not designed for the storage of moisture activated gassing compounds.



BPCA makes strenuous efforts to ensure the accuracy and current relevance of its publications, which are intended for use by technically competent persons.

However, this does not remove the need for technical and managerial judgement in practical situations. Nor do they confer any immunity or exemption from relevant legal requirements, including by-laws.

If you suspect something in this document is incorrect or out of date, please report it to technical@bpca.org.uk.

Further reading

- Biocidal Products Regulations 2012
- Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- COSHH Regulations 2002
- Guidance on storing pesticides for farmers and other professional users. **HSE, www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais16.pdf**
- Product labels and MSDS sheets associated with the stored products.

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