

SAFE STORAGE OF SOLID FERTILIZERS



Fertilizers are safe when handled in accordance with industry guidelines.
They are not toxic to handle and cannot burn or explode spontaneously.
If exposed to heat or fire, fertilizers can decompose and release toxic fumes.

This is good practice guidance which supplements the requirements of legislation and is based on detailed published industry guidance.

DO'S

- ✓ Keep a record of what is in storage (ideally a layout plan of the store and materials present).
- ✓ Report to competent authorities any thefts or disappearances.
- ✓ Have key safety information (e.g. safety data sheets) readily available.
- ✓ Train workers in safe handling and emergency response.
- ✓ Segregate, treat and dispose reject fertilizer safely.
- ✓ Display safety warning notices.
- ✓ Maintain good housekeeping practices.
- ✓ Keep access to emergency equipment and escape routes clear.
- ✓ Label fertilizer bags and bins correctly.
- ✓ Maintain segregation between incompatible fertilizers.
- ✓ For maintenance work: get manager's approval and follow correct procedures.
- ✓ Use only approved electrical equipment.
- ✓ Carry out regular safety inspections.

DON'TS

- ⊘ No entry for unauthorized persons.
- ⊘ No heat source in contact with fertilizers.
- ⊘ No smoking or use of naked flame.
- ⊘ No gas bottles, oil drums, gas and oil tanks, or fuel filling station in the vicinity of fertilizers.
- ⊘ No open fires or hot light bulbs close to products.
- ⊘ No hot work unless authorized and done under strict control.
- ⊘ No parking of vehicles close to product, including refueling/recharging or maintenance.
- ⊘ No contamination of fertilizers with combustible and organic materials, seeds, hay, straw, farm chemicals, oil and grease, acids and alkalis.
- ⊘ No use of sawdust for drying wet floors (use inert materials instead).