

Best Management Farming Practices for Water Quality Protection

Agrichemical Handling Facility (309)

BMP: Protect creeks, streams and rivers from agrichemical inputs.

NRCS Practice Standard: Agrichemical Handling Facility (309)

A designated Agrichemical Handling Facility is needed when the handling of agrichemicals creates significant potential for pollution of surface water, groundwater, air or soil. The development of a permanent or temporary Facility helps ensure that chemicals are properly managed and associated equipment is properly operated. A Facility must have an adequate water supply for filling application equipment tanks, rinsing application equipment and chemical containers as needed for the operation. The pad, hoses, pipes, valves, seals, connectors, filters, tanks, and related plumbing material must be compatible with the chemicals being handled and capable of withstanding the intended use.



Agrichemical Handling Facility (NRCS Conservation Practice Code 309)

Definition: A facility with an impervious surface to provide an environmentally safe area for the handling of on-farm agrichemicals.

Purposes:

- To provide a safe environment on farm and ranch operations for the storage, mixing, loading and cleanup of agrichemicals, retain incidental spillage, and retain leakage
- To reduce pollution to surface water, groundwater, air, and/or soil.

Consider this:

For permanent facilities, the agrichemical handling facility may cause an increase in water use at the site from the mixing of agrichemicals and rinsing of agrichemical sprayers, containers and agrichemical-handling pad.

Consider providing a roof over permanent facilities.

Consider installing an apron at the facility entrance to minimize sediment transport onto the pad.

Consider providing a mixing platform for filling agrichemical sprayers.

For portable handling facilities consider using a top/bottom-loading valve with built-in check valve in the hose from the nurse tank to the spray tank. This will enable the operator to remain on the ground while filling the sprayer.

When the agrichemical handling facility is also used for agrichemical storage, provide sufficient space and designate a separate room or area.

Outlet drains are not permitted in the agrichemical collection, storage or handling areas.

For more information contact your local NRCS office or visit our website at <http://efota.sc.eaov.usda.aov/treemenuFS.asp>

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