

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

**702 – CA INTERIM  
AGRICHEMICAL HANDLING FACILITY**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Sponsor/Land user: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Location GPS Coordinates Map Datum: \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Quad Sheet Name \_\_\_\_\_ SEC \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_

A properly operated and maintained agrichemical handling facility is an asset to your farm. This facility was designed and installed to capture, collect, recover, and to provide storage of agrichemical spills and rinsate in order to minimize the potential for pollution. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

**GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Do not allow human entry to any enclosed structure without appropriate safety equipment. Maintain appropriate warning signs.
- Inspect safety items twice a year and repair or replace as necessary.
- Ensure that all warning signs and safety instructions are posted in a visible location and in readable condition. Repair or replace as necessary. (Signage may include the following but are not limited to this list.)
  - Proper precautions to reduce worker exposure in operation of the AHF
  - Emergency response instructions in case of an accidental chemical spill, exposure, fire or other incident that could adversely affect environmental health.
  - Signs that warn that hazardous chemicals are present.
  - Condensed version of proper operating procedures for the AHF that is weather proof and easily noticed.

- Empty storage tank(s) to accommodate accidental spills and rinsate prior to mixing and rinsing events.
- Empty and clean the catchment sump and concrete slab after spills or rinsing events.
- Dispose or use rinsate, exterior washway accumulated sediment and spillage water in accordance with the chemical's label requirements and federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Maintain all pumps, agitators, piping, valves and all other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition by following the manufacturer's recommendations. Repair as necessary.
- Test backflow prevention devices. Repair or replace as necessary.
- Repair spalls, cracks and weathered areas in concrete surfaces.
- Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and apply paint as a protective coating.
- Maintain grounding rods and wiring for all electrical equipment in good condition.
- Inspect haul roads and approaches to and from the Agricultural Handling Facility frequently to determine the need for stabilizing materials.
- All fences, railings, and/or warning signs shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized human or livestock entry.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.
- Inspect for damage from rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage. Take appropriate corrective actions to alleviate further damage.

**SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR AGRICULTURAL HANDLING FACILITY**

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE OFFICE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR YOUR AGRICULTURAL HANDLING FACILITY.**