

# FIRE AND SPILL EMERGENCY PRE-PLAN FOR HANDLING AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

**Facility Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Location** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax Number** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**      **Day**                      **Home**                      **Pager**                      **Cellular**

<b>Manager's Name</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Ass't Mgr's Name</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Alternate</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Alternate</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Hospital</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____

**CHEMTREC** (Chemical Transportation Emergency Center) **(800) 424-9300** (Toll Free)

Most chemical manufacturers are equipped to provide emergency information on their products. Manufacturers may be contacted through CHEMTREC or directly.

Fires in agricultural chemical facilities can be dangerous – the possibility of poisoning must be considered in addition to the usual fire hazards. The general guidelines inside will help reduce these hazards. However, a specific plan should be developed for each facility as outlined in the instructions. Local fire departments should be invited to your facility at least annually. They should be thoroughly familiar with the contents of your Emergency Pre-Plan. Special consideration should be given to providing them with relevant information in advance as to anticipated quantities, locations, and types of hazardous materials. The use of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), which are available from manufacturers, is encouraged.

.....

**EMERGENCY PRE-PLAN UPDATE (Revise annually and after any important change):**

**FACILITY MANAGER** \_\_\_\_\_

*signature* *date*

**FIRE DEPT. OFFICIAL** \_\_\_\_\_

*signature* *date*

**NAME OF FIRE DEPT** \_\_\_\_\_

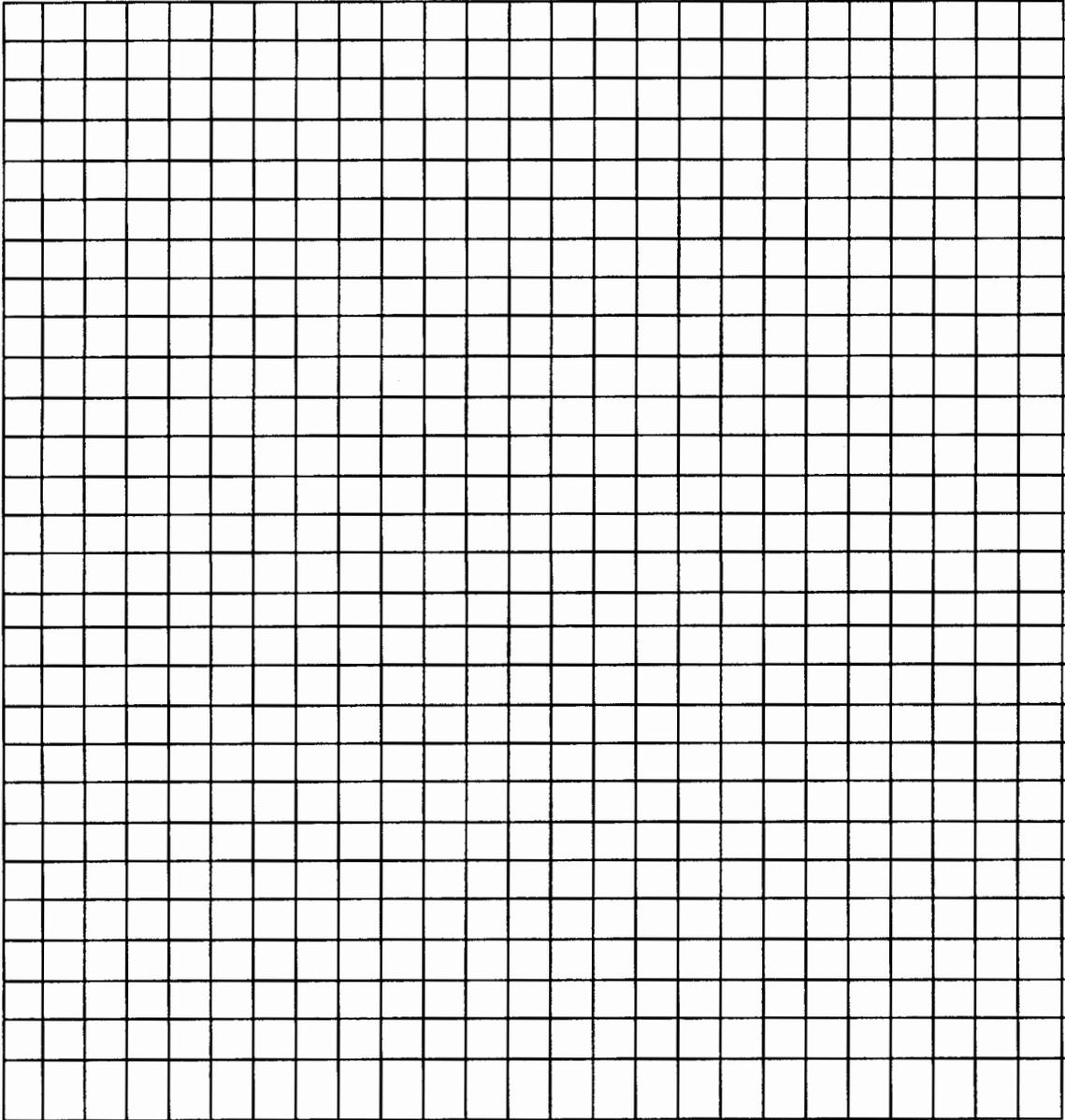
**NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW OR UPDATE** \_\_\_\_\_

*date*

## SITE RUNOFF CONTROL

Draw map showing the surrounding area for about one mile in all directions.

Extend the map in the direction of the site drainage so that drainage can be traced until it reaches the nearest large body of water. If runoff can be impounded on or off site, show location and approximate number of gallons that can be contained. Locate where and how runoff may be blocked by dikes, dams, shutting off lift pumps, etc. Show surrounding land use (residential, cornfield, etc.) Show places of public assembly, such as schools, churches. Use symbols below. Show north arrow.



### EXTERIOR

Primary Staging Area		Well		Direction Ground Slopes	
Fence		Drain Lines or Culverts		Stream or Creek	
Gate		(with direction of flow)		Impoundment Location	
Railroad		Surface		Lift Pump	
Drain Inlet		Underground		Proposed Dike or Berm	
Manhole					

1. Agency notification: (List the names and telephone numbers of agencies that need to be notified should a spill or fire involving pesticides or fertilizers occur. Include railroads if rails may be blocked.)

**PHONE NUMBER**

- Fire, Police, Etc. – 911 unless another telephone number is to be used 911
- National Response Center (800) 424-8802
- LEPC
- Manufacturers Emergency Response Programs

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

- List of Major nearby sites to be called and alerted

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

2. Surrounding occupancies & land use; (Describe surrounding land use in all four directions for one mile radius. For example, north: grazing land to 1/5 mile, commercial district 1/4-1/2 mile, residential zone 1/2 to 1 mile, hospital located at 5<sup>th</sup> and Main. Show as much as possible in sketch on page 3.)

- North 

---

---

---
- South 

---

---

---
- East 

---

---

---
- West 

---

---

---

3. Location of emergency equipment & supplies (Available 24 hours a day. Include phone numbers.)

- Local contract HAZMAT team 

---
- Self-contained breathing apparatus 

---
- Spare compressed breathing air tanks 

---
- Earth moving equipment 

---
- Portable water pumps 

---
- Street barriers 

---
- Sand bags 

---
- Other 

---
- Remediation contractor 

---

4. Location & types of water supplies: (Hydrants, ponds, irrigation canals, fresh or salt water, etc. Verify hydrant thread compatibility and water pressure and flow rates.)

---

---

---

5. List of in-house emergency equipment

---

---

---

## **First Aid – in case of accidental contact**

**Eyes:** Flush with water for 15 minutes. Get medical attention immediately.  
Refer to MSDS or product label for further instructions.

**Hands:** Wash thoroughly with soap & water. Refer to MSDS or product label for further instructions. If in doubt about nature of material, get medical attention immediately.

**Clothing:** Remove contaminated clothing & wash skin thoroughly with soap & water. Refer to MSDS or product label for further instructions. If in doubt about nature of material, get medical attention immediately. Dispose of contaminated clothing or wash clothing separately in strong detergent before reusing.

**Note:** If medical attention is sought, take labeled container.

## **Important note**

Should this facility become involved in a fire, the Commanding Officer at the scene should be in a position to let the facility burn if he determines that continued water applications:

1. Will result in extensive contaminated water runoff, or
2. Could result in incomplete combustion of chemicals, resulting in a release of toxic compounds into the air.

It would be desirable if he had advance written authority from the Facility Manager to do so if necessary or appropriate. This eventuality should be discussed with the insurers of the establishment.

This information is based on a pre-fire plan developed by  
Chevron Chemical Company and is reprinted by  
CropLife America with permission.



1156 15th St. N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Tel: 202-296-1585  
Fax: 202-463-0474

In cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services,

# Fire Fighting Tactics

## FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS FIGHTING FIRES INVOLVING PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS

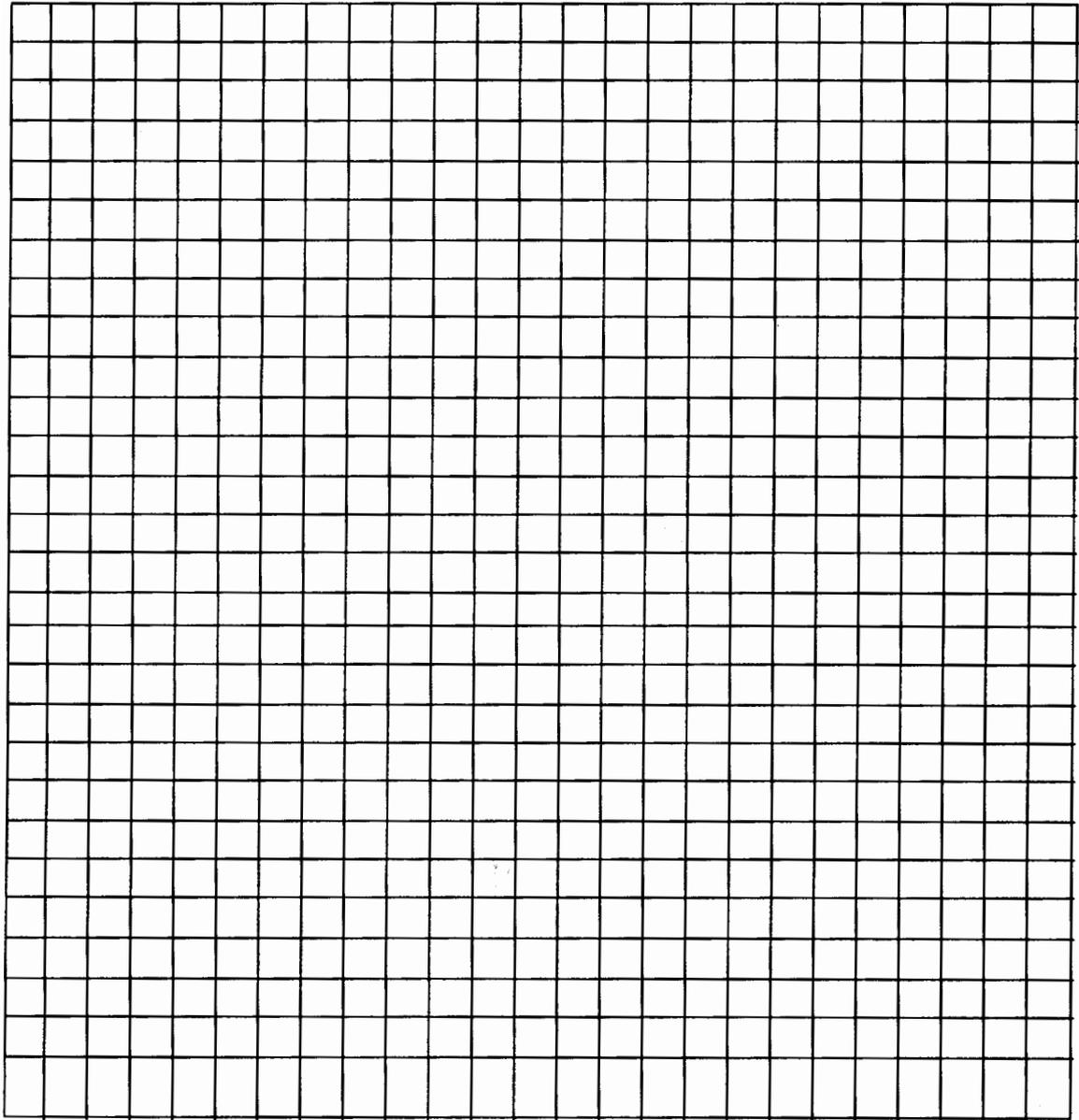
<p><b>1</b> <b>Contact facility operator.</b> Determine type, quantity and hazards of products. Determine if fire should be fought after weighing fire fighting &amp; postfire hazards vs. possible salvage.</p>	<p><b>6</b> <b>Attack fire from upwind &amp; from a safe distance.</b> Bottles, drums, metal &amp; aerosol cans are not vented and may explode.</p>
<p><b>2</b> <b>Notify hospital to stand by.</b> Hospital may obtain poison control information by contacting the manufacturer.</p>	<p><b>7</b> <b>Contain fire &amp; protect surroundings.</b> Prevent spread of fire by cooling nearby containers to prevent rupture (move vehicles &amp; rail cars if possible). Burning chemicals cannot be salvaged.</p>
<p><b>3</b> <b>Contact chemical manufacturer.</b> Maintain liaison for specialized information, particularly during a large fire.</p>	<p><b>8</b> <b>Use as little water as possible &amp; contain runoff.</b> Contaminated runoff can be the most serious problem. Water spreads contamination over a wide area. Construct dikes to prevent flow to lakes, streams, sewers, etc. Cooling effect of water retards high-temperature decomposition of the chemicals to less toxic compounds.</p>
<p><b>4</b> <b>Evacuate downwind &amp; isolate area.</b> Patrol area to keep out spectators.</p>	<p><b>9</b> <b>Use water fog spray, not straight stream.</b> Fog spray is more effective for control. Avoid breaking bottles and bags; adds fuel and contamination. Straight streams spread fire and contamination.</p>
<p><b>5</b> <b>Wear personal protective equipment.</b> Wear rubber or neoprene gloves, boots, turnouts &amp; hat. If contact cannot be avoided (such as entering an unventilated building for rescue) also wear self-contained breathing apparatus (Air Paks).</p>	<p><b>10</b> <b>Poisoning.</b> Avoid product, smoke, mist and runoff. In case of contact or suspected poisoning, leave site immediately, follow first aid instructions on back cover. Any feeling of discomfort or illness may be a symptom of poisoning. Symptoms may be delayed up to 12 hours. Chemicals may poison by ingestion, absorption through broken skin, or inhalation. Wash face and hands before eating, smoking or using toilet. Do not put fingers to mouth or rub eyes.</p>

## Post Fire Cleanup

- **Fire fighting personnel & equipment** – Remove protective clothing upon leaving site and impound with contaminated fire fighting equipment.
- Upon return to fire stations, shower & shampoo thoroughly with soap and water, change into clean clothing and wash inner clothing with detergent.
- Watch for signs & symptoms of pesticide poisoning.
- Put on coveralls and rubber or neoprene gloves and decontaminate protective clothing and equipment using a strong detergent solution. Decontaminate in an isolated area.
- Contaminated cotton-jacketed hose may have to be destroyed; most are weakened by strong detergents.
- **Fire site:** Isolate & secure scene to keep people away; water and runoff may be toxic.
- Contact federal, state, or local health authorities for disposal instructions and approval.
- Handle waste & runoff same as for a product spill— Personal protective equipment is required.
- If the amount of water and/or run-off is significant or you have any doubts, contact the manufacturer.

**SKETCH OF FACILITY, IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS & SITE RUNOFF CONTROL**

Draw map showing the property site and surroundings. Show outline of buildings, type of construction, permanent interior walls, building openings, and major fixed equipment. Provide elevation views if more than one story. Locate all fixed outside equipment. Show perimeter fences, gates, rail spurs, floor drains, etc. Show access routes and approximate distances to important buildings. Select a suitable scale. Identify areas of the facility committed to pesticides, flammables, oxidizers, etc. including bulk storage tanks.



**LEGEND**

**FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT**

- Fire hydrant (H)
- Sprinkler Booster Connection (B)
- Main Gas Shutoff (G)
- Main Electrical Shutoff (E)
- Water Runoff Shutoff (RO)

**WALL CONSTRUCTION**

- Concrete (dotted pattern)
- Masonry (vertical lines)
- Metal (zigzag line)
- Wood (solid line)
- Fire Wall (Add to wall symbol) (FW)
- Emergency Rescue Equipment (ER)

**BUILDING**

- Pedestrian Door (arched line)
- Sliding Door (double horizontal lines)
- Overhead Door (wavy line)
- Fire Door (Add to door symbol) (FD)
- Location of MSDS and Emergency plan (MSDS)