

# Pre-Fire Plan for Agricultural Chemicals

Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:	Day	Home	Pager	Cell
Manager's Name _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ass't Mgr's Name _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alternate 1 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alternate 2 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hospital _____				

## **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 (see list on page 5).

Fires in agricultural chemical facilities can be dangerous. In addition to the usual fire hazard, the possibility of poisoning must be considered. A specific plan should be developed for each facility as outlined in the instructions here. Local fire departments should be invited to your facility at least once a year. Fire fighters should be thoroughly familiar with the contents of your Emergency Pre-Plan. It is a good idea to give them advance information about anticipated quantities, locations, and types of hazardous materials stored. Have the manufacturers' Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each product available for their reference.

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

Facility Manager \_\_\_\_\_  
signature date

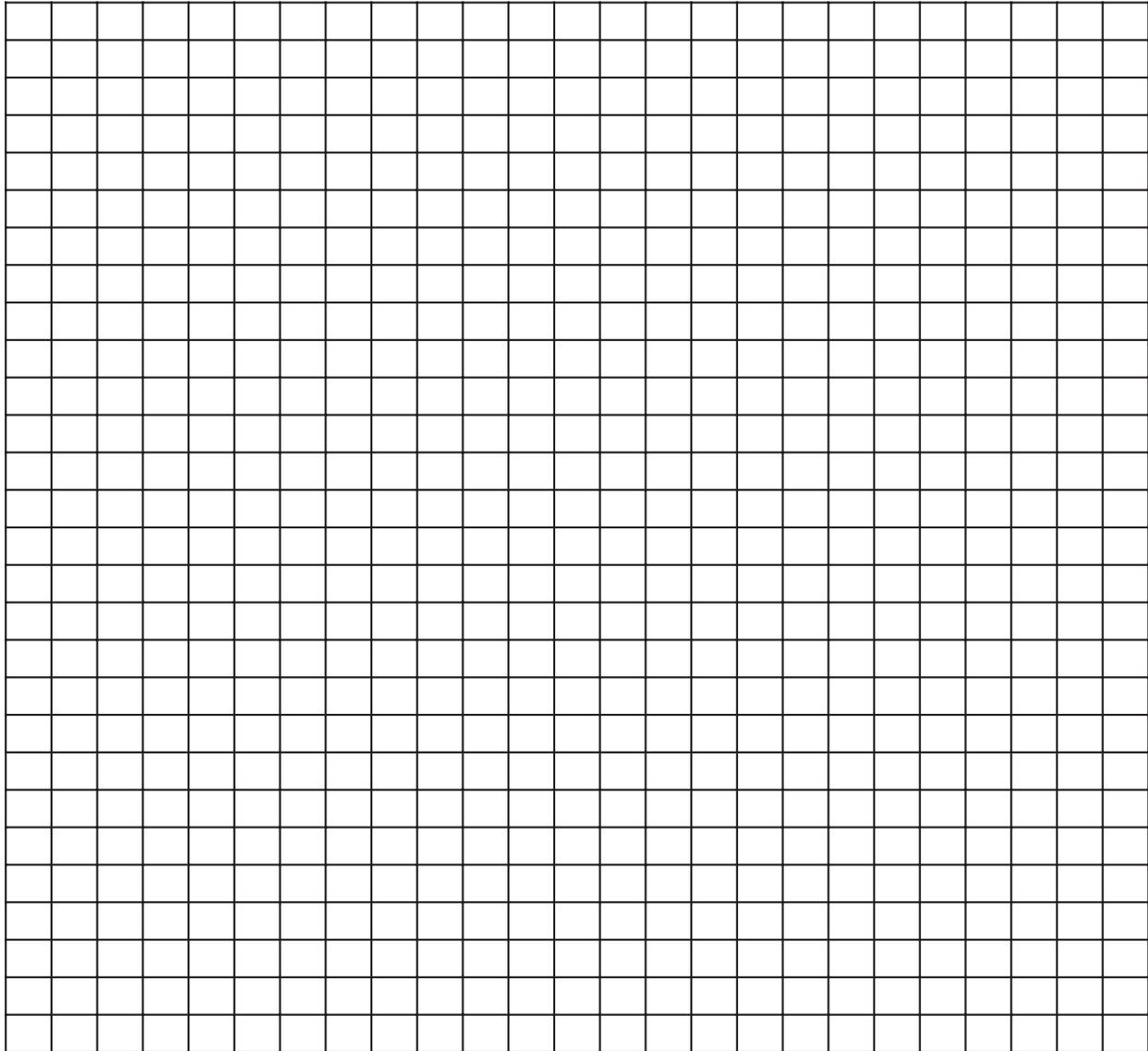
Fire Dept. Official \_\_\_\_\_  
signature date

Name of Fire Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next scheduled review or update: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sketch of Facility and Immediate Surroundings

Draw map showing the property site and surroundings. Select a suitable scale. 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. 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 Electrical Shutoff (E)
- Main Gas Shutoff (G)
- Water Runoff Shutoff (RO)

#### Wall Construction

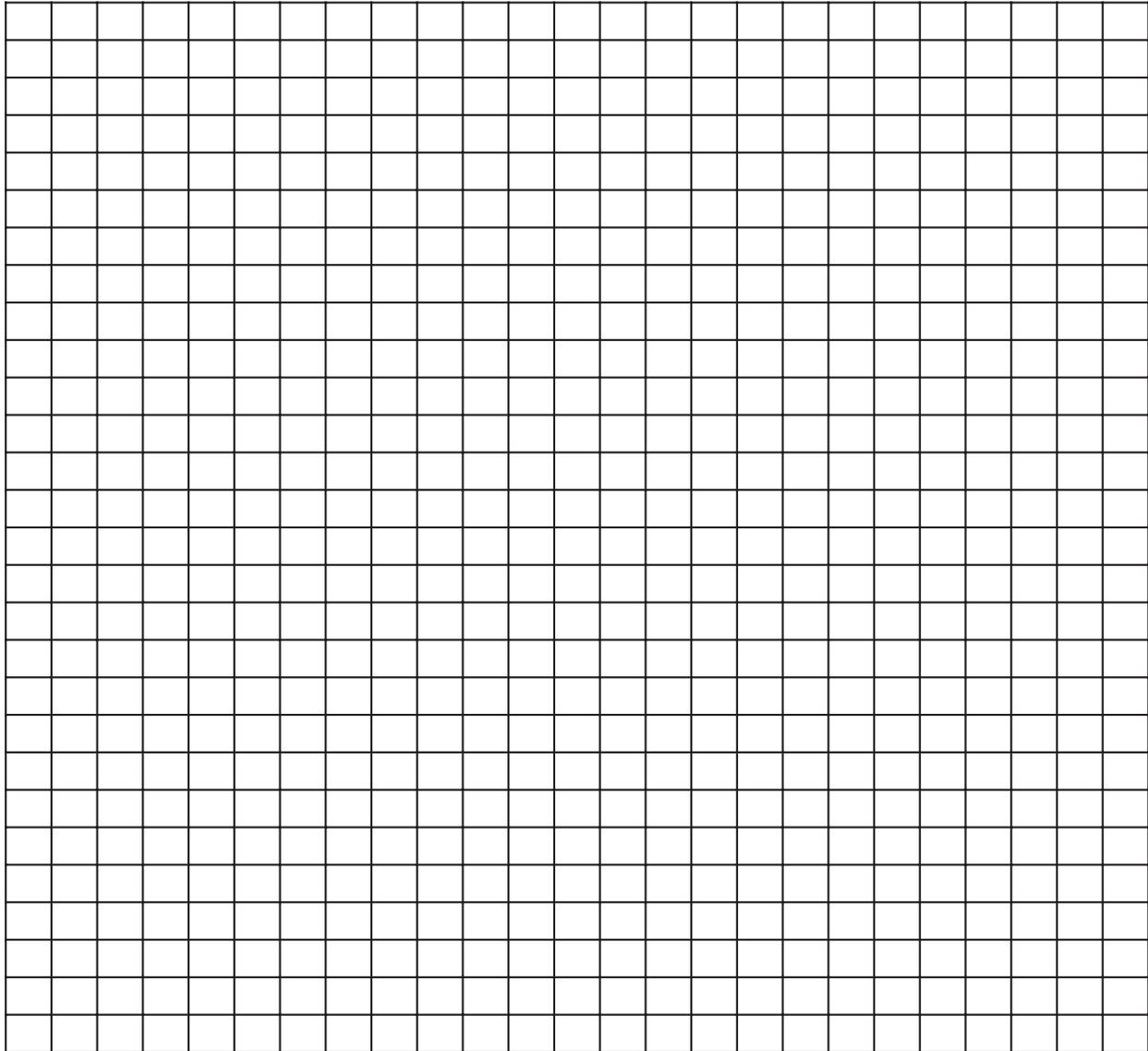
- Concrete
- Masonry
- Metal
- Wood
- Fire Wall (add to wall symbol) (FW)
- Emergency rescue equipment (ER)

#### Building

- Pedestrian Door
- Sliding Door
- Overhead Door
- Fire Door (add to door symbol) (FD)
- MSDS & Emergency Plan (MSDS)

## 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. Mark places where runoff may be blocked by dikes, dams, shutting off lift pumps, etc. Show surrounding land use (residential, crops, etc.). Show places of public assembly such as schools, churches. Use symbols below. Show north arrow.



Exterior

Primary Staging Area



Fence



Gate



Railroad



Drain Inlet



Manhole



Well



Drain lines or culverts

(with direction of flow)

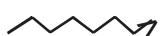
Surface



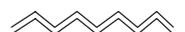
Underground



Direction of ground slope



Stream or creek



Impoundment location



Lift pump



Proposed dike or berm



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 |                |
| • National Response Center  | (800) 424-8802 |
| • Local Emergency Preparedness Center                                   | _____          |
| • Manufacturers Emergency Response Programs                             | _____          |
| _____   | _____          |
| _____   | _____          |
| _____   | _____          |
| • List of major nearby sites to be called and alerted                   |                |
| _____   | _____          |
| _____   | _____          |
| _____   | _____          |

2. Surrounding occupancies and land use: Describe surrounding land use in all four directions for one mile radius. For example, north: grazing land to .2 mile, commercial district .25 to .5 mile, residential zone .5 to 1 mile, hospital located at [address or location]. Show as much as possible in sketch on page 3.

North \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

South \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

East \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

West \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Location of emergency equipment and 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 and 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



# Fire Fighting Tactics

For Fire Departments fighting fires involving pesticides and fertilizers.

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

## Post-Fire Cleanup

### Fire fighting personnel and equipment

- Remove protective clothing upon leaving site and impound with contaminated fire-fighting equipment.
- Upon return to fire stations, shower and shampoo thoroughly with soap and water, change into clean clothing and wash inner clothing with detergent.
- Watch for signs and 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 and 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 and runoff in the same way as a product spill. Use of personal protective equipment is required.
- If the amount of water and/or runoff is significant or if you have any doubts, contact the manufacturer.

## 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 and 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 and wash skin thoroughly with soap and 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:** Take labeled container when seeking medical assistance.

## Important Note

Should this facility become involved in a fire, the Commanding Officer at the scene should decide whether to let the facility burn if it appears that 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.

The Commanding Officer should have advance written authority from the facility manager to make this decision and 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.



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