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PSEP Fact Sheet: Safe and Secure Pesticide Storage

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Department of Plant Sciences College of Agriculture and Natural Resources A lways store pesticides in a locked, well-lighted, secure facility. It is important to keep all hazardous materials out of the hands of those who might misuse these chemicals.

- Limit access to a pesticide storage area. Take the necessary steps to keep out unauthorized persons.
- Keep an inventory and check it regularly. Notify authorities immediately of missing chemicals.
- Don't keep excess inventory. Purchase only what is needed and use what is purchased in a reasonable amount of time.
- Have product labels available in the storage facility. Also, have a list of emergency procedures available.
- Let employees know where this information is located.
- Keep the storage facility cool, dry, and well ventilated. Make sure the facility is away from areas likely to flood.
- Post warnings to let emergency personnel and firefighters know they may encounter hazardous chemicals in the storage facility.
- A sealed concrete floor will prevent spills from reaching ground water.
- Sturdy stainless steel shelving is the best choice. For secondary containment, place each container in a disposable foil "turkey roaster."
- Store products by category keep herbicides separate from insecticides. Store liquid formulations below dry formulations. Keep glass containers on the lowest level. Keep all containers off the floor.
- Keep all pesticides in their original containers with their original labels. Never store a pesticide in a food or drink container.
- Never store feed, seed, fertilizer, veterinary supplies/ medications, or business products in a pesticide storage facility.
- Never let anyone eat, drink, or smoke in a storage facility.
- Never store Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) inside a pesticide storage facility. Keep emergency PPE in another nearby room in case of a spill.
- Keep a spill clean-up kit in a storage facility.

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