

Overview

This standard covers co-ordinating the storage of harvested crops which may include grass, arable crops, vegetables, herbs, flowers or fruit. The standard applies to the storage of crops indoors or outdoors. You may, for example, carry out work in relation to the outdoor storage of sugar beet or straw, or the indoor storage of grain, potatoes or apples. It also covers temperature-controlled storage. The work which you carry out will depend on the type of enterprise for which you work.

The term 'specification' is used to refer to customer, market and organisational requirements.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation.

**Performance
criteria**

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and the required activity
- P2 ensure work methods for storage are established and clearly communicated
- P3 select the appropriate measures to prevent risk of contamination by pests or disease
- P4 ensure the storage facility is suitable and meets the specifications for the storage of the required crop
- P5 establish measures to maintain suitable levels of hygiene and biosecurity
- P6 confirm that the crop has been prepared prior to storage in accordance with specifications
- P7 ensure equipment is used and maintained in a safe and effective condition
- P8 ensure crops are arranged in the storage facility in a manner which prevents damage and contamination
- P9 conduct routine inspections of the storage facility and the crop in accordance with specifications
- P10 ensure crops are maintained in an optimum condition according to specifications
- P11 identify any crop which does not meet specifications and take the appropriate action
- P12 ensure stock rotation is carried out where appropriate in accordance with specifications
- P13 ensure crops are removed from the storage facility in accordance with specifications
- P14 maintain the safety and security of the crop and the storage area at all times
- P15 ensure appropriate records are completed as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
- P16 ensure that environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements are put into practice across your area of responsibility

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K2 how to interpret risk assessments
- K3 how to maintain effective communications with those involved in the storage of crops
- K4 the reasons why harvested crops may need to be stored
- K5 how the needs of crops differ in terms of their handling, storage and duration
- K6 the type and condition of storage facility necessary for the crop
- K7 methods of preparing the storage facility
- K8 signs of pests and disease and how they can be controlled
- K9 use and storage of chemical treatments and relevant legislation
- K10 how to control environmental conditions to maintain the quality of the stored crop
- K11 the equipment required and how to ensure that it is used and maintained in a safe and effective condition
- K12 methods of arranging crops in storage facilities
- K13 methods of maintaining hygiene and biosecurity and the reasons why it is important
- K14 types of damage which could occur to crops and methods for preventing it
- K15 ways in which safety of the storage facility is maintained and security where appropriate
- K16 appropriate records to be kept and their significance
- K17 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies

Scope/range

Storage facility:

- 1 indoor
- 2 outdoor
- 3 temperature-controlled

Glossary

Preparing the storage facility:

- space required
- layout
- pest control
- environmental conditions
- access
- hygiene and biosecurity
- security
- safety

Pests:

- rodents
- insects
- birds

Routine inspections:

- pests
- environmental conditions
- crop condition

Specifications:

- drawings
- schedules
- method statements
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- manufacturers' guidelines
- customer requirements

Instructions:

- verbal
- written

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Relevant occupations Nursery Worker; Fruit and Vegetable Production Worker; Packer; farmer and grower

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