
Overview

This standard covers the planning and management of the storage of harvested crops following post-harvest activities.

Crops may include root crops, grass, arable crops, vegetables, herbs, flowers or fruit. Type and length of storage time will vary according to the type of crop and market/customer requirements.

This standard is suitable for those who have overall responsibility for the management of harvested crops in storage.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select storage methods that are appropriate to the crops harvested, their final destination and customer/market requirements
2. produce plans for the storage of harvested crops following post-harvest activities
3. identify and confirm the availability of the resources required to implement the storage plan
4. confirm the availability of suitable storage facilities and transport equipment
5. produce procedures and protocols for the storage of harvested crops following post-harvest activities
6. communicate the plan and procedures to those involved with its implementation
7. establish measures to maintain the required levels of hygiene and bio-security and confirm that they have been implemented
8. establish measures for the recycling or disposal of waste and by-products in accordance with relevant legal and organisational requirements, and confirm they that have been implemented
9. confirm that working methods promote health and safety and are consistent with relevant legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
10. confirm that those involved in the transport and storage of harvested crops are using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
11. manage the transportation and storage process and confirm that all activities meet requirements
12. manage the environment and the condition of the crops and confirm they are maintained at their optimum quality
13. evaluate the effectiveness of the storage against the plan and where necessary take action to amend the plan
14. confirm that records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation, codes of practice, quality assurance requirements and organisational policies

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the different purposes for storing harvested crops to meet final destination and customer/market requirements
2. how the needs of crops differ in terms of their transportation and storage requirements
3. how to develop a management plan for the storage of harvested crops following post-harvest activities
4. how to determine the human, financial, material and capital resources necessary to achieve the plan
5. the requirements of the storage area in relation to the crop being stored, for example the space required, layout, preparation, pest control, environmental conditions, access, security, hygiene and bio-security
6. the different methods of moving and transporting crops and relevant legislation affecting these, such as manual handling regulations, lifting equipment regulations
7. how to develop procedures and protocols for the storage of harvested crops following post-harvest activities
8. the methods of communicating plans and procedures to those involved in their implementation
9. the methods of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the reasons why this is important
10. the relevant legal and organisational requirements for the handling, transport, storage, recycling and disposal of waste and by-products
11. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety and food hygiene legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
12. the importance of confirming that the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) is used for the transport and storage of harvested crops
13. the requirements for monitoring the environment and condition of the stored crops
14. the actions required if pests, damage or contamination are reported
15. how to assess the storage process against the management plan
16. the likely cause of deviations from plans and the impact of deviations on the storage process

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17. the requirements for reporting and recording and the length of time for which records should be retained

Glossary

Crops could include:

- root crops
- grass
- arable crops
- vegetable
- herbs
- flowers
- fruit

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Relevant Occupations	Farmer; Farm Manager; Horticultural Production Manager
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Suite	Agricultural Management; Horticulture
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