

LEARNING ABOUT AGRICULTURAL WASTE

Quickstart checklist

Print this checklist and see if you are complying with waste regulations in **Scotland**.

Storing waste

- For waste to be disposed of and for special waste, check that you store it for no longer than 12 months.
- For waste to be recycled, check that you store it for no longer than three years.
- Store waste securely and protect it from vandalism and vermin.
- Cover or net any loose waste.
- Check your waste containers for leaks, holes or other damage.
- Store different waste types separately.
- Keep all liquid wastes in a container inside an impermeable bund (or other appropriate secondary containment system).
- Check that your staff know how to dispose of each type of waste produced on your farm.

Preventing pollution

- Check that your staff know what to do if there is a spill of any waste on your farm.
- Label all your surface water drains, so that you will know where any spill will end up.
- Keep a map of all the surface water drains on your farm.

Special waste

- Check whether you produce special waste on your farm. Most farms will produce special waste – did you know that pesticide containers and fluorescent light tubes are classed as special waste?
- Store special waste separately from non-special waste.
- Check that you don't store too much special waste on your farm.

The limits are:

- liquid waste – 23,000 litres
- solid waste in a secure container – 80 cubic metres

- solid waste in a secure place – 50 cubic metres.

Exemptions for farming

- Check whether you need to register any exemptions with SEPA. Most farms will carry out at least one process that requires an exemption, e.g. landspreading or composting waste.
- Register your exemptions with SEPA.
- Make sure that you know the limitations of your exemptions, and that you meet them.
- Re-notify SEPA and pay your renewal fee annually for any complex exemptions.
- Keep records of all the exemptions you hold and the conditions of the exemptions.

Moving waste

- Check containers that you use to move waste for leaks. This includes tankers, skips, drums etc.
- Complete waste transfer notes every time someone else takes waste away from your farm.
- Check that your waste ends up where your waste carrier says it does. You should check periodically that your waste is being disposed of correctly – remember it is your responsibility (your duty of care) to make sure your waste isn't fly-tipped.
- If you take your own waste to a disposal site, check that they have a permit.
- Complete a waste transfer note if you take your own waste to a disposal site.
- Keep waste transfer notes for two years.
- Complete consignment notes whenever anyone else takes special waste away from your farm.
- Pre-notify SEPA before you move any special waste in Scotland, or bring special waste into Scotland from England or Wales.
- Keep consignment notes (for special waste) for three years.

Animal carcass waste

- Don't burn or bury fallen stock or animal carcass waste unless you have specific permission to do so from Animal Health.
- If you operate an on-farm incinerator, check that it has been approved by Animal Health.

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