



DOVE
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Information

OIL STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) Regulations 2010

If you store more than 1,500 litres, in total, of fuel oil (which includes red diesel but not domestic fuel oil which is stored separately) on your nursery in storage facilities that were constructed or substantially altered after 1991, the requirements of the *Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) Regulations 2010* apply. Go to www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/118798.aspx for more details.

For facilities constructed or substantially altered during 1991, there are a range of cut-off dates to cater for particular circumstances. These Regulations require bunding of above ground fixed tanks and drums but underground tanks and tanks used for transporting fuel oil (mobile bowsers) are not controlled by these regulations. The main requirements include:

- Fuel oil tanks and their associated equipment should be contained within a bund which is capable of holding at least 110% of the largest tank's capacity or 25% of the total capacity if there is more than one tank, whichever is the greater. Where there is no tank (e.g. drums only), the capacity must be at least 25% of the maximum quantity stored;
- Fixed valves and taps allowing oil to be discharged from the tank should be within the bund, must discharge vertically downwards and must be kept locked shut when not in use;
- Flexible pipes should be fitted with an automatic closure valve and must be locked within the bund when not in use; and
- No part is to be within 10 metres of a watercourse or other water body which fuel oil could enter if it were to escape.

Important points to take note of:

- A number of proprietary tank systems and in particular, plastics ones, claim to have an integral bund to meet the Regulation requirements. Before you buy the wrong type of tank read more in an Environment Agency factsheet PPG2.
- Pig or poultry producers with an IPPC (or an Environmental Permitting Regulation) permit must meet the oil storage requirements of these Regulations regardless of the size or age of the oil storage facility. You can read more about these obligations in the Environment Agency guidance at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/pollution/39083.aspx
- These Regulations also apply to storage inside a building.

Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use

Dove Associates shall in no event be liable for any loss or damage caused by the use of products mentioned in this document

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Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations 2001

Separate to the Regulations outlined above are the *Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations 2001*. These apply to the storage of more than 200 litres of oil but do not cover farm tanks used to store fuel oil for agricultural purposes. These came into force in three stages:

- New oil stores were required to comply by 1 March 2002;
- Existing oil stores 'at significant risk' were required to comply by 1 September 2003; and
- All remaining existing oil stores must comply by 1 September 2005.

These Regulations introduced new storage requirements for tanks, IBCs (Intermediate Bulk Containers), drums and mobile bowsers. However, farm tanks used to store fuel oil for agricultural purposes are exempt from these regulations.

If you are in the market to purchase any fuel storage equipment, you might be told that that you need to comply with these Regulations. This is not the case if you are storing fuel on nurseries or farms for agricultural/horticultural use. If the oil is stored for a secondary farm business, such as a transport company, then the 2001 Regulations apply.

Go to www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/oil/default.aspx for further details.