



Grow the Crop

Handout 15

Procedure in Case of Spill

Procedures for Dealing with Minor Spills and Leakages

The following equipment should be available and easily accessible always in areas where CPPs are stored and must be used when a CPP spill or leakage occurs:

- Two sets of protective clothing, including respirators and facemasks;
- Two brooms;
- Two shovels;
- 50kg powdered lime*; and
- Several open-top drums in which to place spilled CPPs.

Personnel can react immediately in a case of emergency if the above-mentioned equipment is in place. Lime is suitable as a general-purpose absorbent for liquid CPP's due to its alkaline nature. It assists the degradation of most toxic substances such as organophosphates.

All persons that regularly work within a CPP storage area must be able to cope if a spill or leakage occurs.

- ✓ Apply first aid to anyone affected by the CPP and obtain medical attention immediately
- ✓ Isolate the area; remove and keep all unauthorised people away from this area.
- ✓ Every person involved in the cleaning up operation must wear protective clothing;
- ✓ Attempt to enclose the spill or leakage as far as possible by constructing an absorbent barrier of sand or lime around the spilt material;
- ✓ Place leaking containers, if any, into open-top drums and label the drums clearly for future reference or disposal;
- ✓ Collect the spilt material and absorbent substance with shovels and brooms and place it into open-top drums for disposal;
- ✓ Ventilate the building as much as possible by opening all doors and windows;
- ✓ If the spillage is on soil or gravel, dig up the area and remove the contaminated soil;
- ✓ If the spillage is on concrete, neutralise the CPP with lime or a 10% solution of sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3) or alternatively, with 5% sodium hydroxide (NaOH);
- ✓ Clean all equipment used during the clean-up operation thoroughly, including laundering protective clothing, and store for future use; and
- ✓ Dispose of the open-top drums and its contents