

Fertiliser Spreader Risk Assessment

Business Name:	ABN:	
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager:	

RISK MATRIX									
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS	
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Elimination Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	Engineering Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	Administrative Change	
								PPE	
Risk Rating & Required Action:								Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:	
4A Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required.								Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:	
3H Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.								1. Eliminate	
2M Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.								2. Substitute	
1L Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.								3. Isolate	
								4. Engineering	
								5. Administrative	
								6. PPE	
Consequence Scale:								Always document why a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.	
Consequence	People (injury/illness)		Project / Assets		Compliance / Reputation				
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability		project shutdown		Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution				
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)		critical delay		Improvement notice; major media coverage				
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day		moderate delay		Minor breach; adverse client comment				
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time		negligible delay		Isolated non-conformance				
Insignificant	No injury		no schedule impact		Deviation caught and corrected on site				
								<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>	

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	slippery surfaces, manual handling injuries	3H	<p>Provide all workers with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves and masks.</p> <p>Conduct a site inspection to identify and rectify any slippery surfaces.</p> <p>Provide manual handling training to reduce the risk of strains and injuries.</p> <p>Ensure adequate lighting in preparation areas to prevent slips and trips.</p> <p>Utilise mechanical aids for lifting heavy loads where possible.</p> <p>Communicate safety procedures to all personnel involved.</p> <p>Keep work area clean and organised to minimise slip hazards.</p> <p>Ensure emergency protocols are in place and known to all staff.</p> <p>Schedule an experienced team member to assist with heavy or awkward loads.</p> <p>Perform regular maintenance checks on PPE and equipment.</p>	2M
2. Transport Fertiliser	chemical exposure, vehicle accidents	4H	<p>Ensure that all vehicles used for transport are regularly maintained and inspected.</p> <p>Drivers must hold appropriate licences and receive regular training.</p> <p>Use sturdy and labelled containers for transporting fertilisers.</p> <p>Implement vehicle speed restrictions in workplace areas.</p> <p>Provide drivers with communication devices for emergency situations.</p> <p>Establish designated routes and safe areas for loading/unloading.</p> <p>Ensure all vehicle safety systems are functioning correctly before use.</p> <p>Use spill containment measures during transportation.</p> <p>Instruct staff on correct vehicle use and safe operating procedures.</p> <p>Monitor weather conditions and modify transport plans if necessary.</p>	2M
3. Load Fertiliser into Spreader	dust inhalation, back strain	3H	<p>Use masks to prevent dust inhalation by operators during loading.</p> <p>Ensure spreader is at a proper height to reduce the risk of back strain.</p> <p>Implement safe manual handling techniques during loading procedures.</p> <p>Provide mechanical aids to assist with lifting and reduce manual handling.</p> <p>Position equipment to minimise awkward postures for workers.</p> <p>Educate operators on the correct use of PPE.</p> <p>Encourage regular breaks to prevent fatigue-related injuries.</p> <p>Conduct a safety briefing before loading begins.</p>	1L

Task	Frequency	Duration	Posture	Tools/Equipment	Notes
Seed sowing, calibration errors	3H	15 min	Twisting, bending	Seed drill, calibration tool	Check seed distribution, adjust settings
Seedling inspection, pinch points	3H	15 min	Twisting, bending	Seedling tray, pinch tool	Check seedling growth, adjust spacing

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7. Pre-operational Inspection	faulty equipment, oil leaks	3H		1L
8. Application of Fertiliser	chemical exposure, operational injury	4A		2M
9. Post-Application Check	residual chemical exposure, equipment damage	3H		1L

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10. Clean-Up and Disposal	chemical waste, slip accidents	3H		1L
11. Maintenance of Equipment	mechanical failure, inadequate lubrication	3H		1L
12. Storage of Fertiliser	chemical leakage, deterioration due to moisture	3H		2M

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13. Training and Induction	lack of procedural knowledge, failure to use PPE	4A		2M
14. Emergency Preparedness and Response	uncontrolled chemical release, inadequate emergency procedures	4A		2M
15. Monitoring and Review	lack of compliance, newly emerging risks	4A		2M

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.