RPL3 No Spill Filling

Why is this good for water quality?

The aim-

40% of pesticide detections in our catchments are from contamination when handling pesticides, the remaining 60% of pesticide detection comes from the field.

Managing the washings and wastes that come from pesticide handling is one measure that can be taken to help keep pesticides out of water

A closed transfer system (CTS is a device that allows pesticide formulations to be transferred from its container to the spray tank with negligible exposure to the operator and the environment. Closed transfer systems therefore enable operators to manage crop protection and nutrition products in a safer and more environmentally friendly way.

A sprayer filling area provides a dedicated space where pesticides can be safely loaded into sprayers, and acts as a safe area for housing the sprayer and for sprayer cleaning.
Spilled concentrated pesticides can seep into the ground or run off into nearby water sources, contaminating soil, groundwater, and surface water.

Why is this good for my farm?

Looking after your staff: Concentrated pesticides are highly toxic. Skin contact, inhalation, or accidental ingestion can cause serious health issues, including poisoning, respiratory problems, or skin burns.

Good for beneficial wildlife: Even small amounts of concentrated pesticide can be lethal to beneficial insects, aquatic life, birds, and mammals.

Crop damage**:** If spilled on plants or in high concentrations in the soil, some pesticides can damage or kill crops due to their strength before dilution.

Reduces the chance of fines: Spills may violate environmental regulations and could lead to fines or other penalties.

Reduces paperwork: Accidental spills may need to be reported, and repeated incidents can raise red flags during inspections.

Saves money: Pesticides are expensive, and spills mean lost product and money.

Reduces clean up costs: Decontaminating the area and disposing of contaminated materials can be costly and time-consuming.

Closed transfer systems have numerous benefits to your operations:

- Improved efficiency and increased productivity, the time taken to load the sprayer is significantly reduced, resulting in the possibility of an increased area treated (1-2 extra loads per day).
- Simple to use due to industry standard connections.
- Reduced potential for point source contamination and accuracy to within 0.5%, due to products being diluted and mixed directly into the tank.
- Reduced operator exposure, operators without a CTS have 84 times higher exposure to pesticides when pouring.
- Reduction in manual handling.
- Reduces reliance on single-use plastic containers

Pesticide handling areas and the associated treatment facilities are great for demonstrating that your farm is serious about chemical and pollutant management. It can also improve the efficiency of your operation and by reducing the losses of pesticide products, improves the safety for staff. It’s an ideal place to park the sprayer too.

RPL3-A No Spill Filling- Drip and Spill Kits

Payment Rate: 100% of cost, up to £100

Specification

•Drip trays must be no smaller than 500 mm x 390 mm x 50 mm (L x W x H)

•Spill kits must be a chemical spill kit with a minimum absorption capacity of 20 litres.

•Mapping must show areas that will be used to fill sprayers and where the drip trays will be employed.

•Written procedures for dealing with spills must be in place.

• The indicated in-field filling location should not be within; 10 m of any inland freshwaters, ditches or land drains, 50 m of a spring, well, borehole or reservoir, or 250 m of a borehole used to supply water.

•Pesticide priority areas or pesticide drivers have been identified in the area, applications judged on a case-by-case basis

Evidence to apply

•Maps of area treated with pesticide, showing areas of grassland and arable, location of filling, any boreholes wells and watercourses.

•Suggested equipment or quotes

•Spill containment procedures

Evidence to claim

•Photo of drip tray in use, including spill kit.

•Evidence of adequate spill kit (invoice and/or photo).

•Filling Area Risk Assessment

RPL3-B No Spill Filling- Closed Transfer System

Payment Rate: 75% of cost, up to £2,000

Specification

•The applicant must fit a recognised closed transfer system to their sprayer or have a free standing one as part of a pre-mix induction system.

•If fitted to the machine, some plumbing will be required. If this is the case the applicant may include a quote for the cost of fitting with your application

•Installation costs can be included

•Must be appropriate for use on commonly used chemical containers

• If fitted to your machine, some plumbing will be required. If this is the case you may include a quote for the cost of fitting with your application.

•Pesticide priority areas or relevant drivers have been identified in the area, applications judged on a case-by-case basis.

Evidence to apply

•Mapping of grassland and arable areas covered

•Proposed equipment and associated quotes

•Fitting quotes

•Images of machines that the CTS will service

Evidence to claim

•Must be complete and fully commissioned

•After photos of CTS in use

•Invoices

•Filling Area Risk Assessment

RPL3-C No Spill Filling- Sprayer Filling Area and Biofilter

Payment Rate: 50% of cost, up to £12,000*

Specification

•Create a dedicated pesticide handling, filling and equipment decontamination area on the farm holding.

•The area should meet or exceed all of the points set out in the bunded area guidance document and the bioprocessing guidance document. The exact means of construction can be defined by the applicant but it must meet these requirements as a minimum.

•A means of disposal must be in place, for example a biofilter or biobed.

•The area should not be used for any other purposes except the dedicated containment of plant protection products.

•This option is designed to fund containment areas, not the roofing to cover the areas.

•Applicants must demonstrate how the facility will reduce pollution if the proposal deviates from the standard criteria detailed in the bunded area guidance document.

•*Costs in excess of £12k will be considered but comparisons based on per ha within catchment costs will be included in the review process.

•Applications will only be considered if the applicant can demonstrate effective infield measures such as margins and buffers.

•Applications will only be considered if the applicant can demonstrate effective precision application equipment such as the use of low drift technology and GPS equipment.

•The applicant must seek relevant permissions for planning and environmental guidance, evidence of this must be supplied at application.

•Applicants must consult their local EA officer to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

•This option is expected to be kept in place or similar provision provided for 10 years.

•One application during the 2025-2030 period.

Evidence to apply

•Mapping of grassland and arable areas covered

•Quotes

•Environmental guidance

•PA certificate

•Sprayer MOT

•Images of in-field pesticide measures

•Images of precision application equipment

Evidence to claim

•Images showing completed area

•Invoices

•Filling Area Risk Assessment

•IPM discussion template