

Protected Agriculture Stewardship – National Auditable Standard

Draft for 45-day Public Consultation Period

January 2nd – February 15th, 2020

A collaborative effort of:



45-Day Public Consultation Period for the National Protected Agricultural Stewardship Standards

The Canadian greenhouse industry is committed to the health and safety of people and the environment. In an effort to help mitigate risks associated with pesticide application and with the long term goal of continuous improvement the sector began a dialogue in 2018 to create a single, industry led national standard for the protected agriculture segment of the industry.

The draft National Protected Agricultural Stewardship Standards have been developed as an industry led effort in collaboration with government. The draft Standards consist of federal and provincial regulatory requirements and industry best practices with the primary focus being ensuring pesticides remain where they are applied (i.e. in the greenhouse).

The standards will be implemented in a tiered approach. Phase 1 of the standards will be focused on mitigating the risks associated with drench applied pesticides entering the environment through surface water discharges originating from greenhouse facilities. The implementation window set to commence in 2021 with all applicable site having completed an audit by 2023. Subsequent Phases and focus areas are anticipated to be communicated thereafter.

A critical component in the standards development process is to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to consult and provide feedback on the DRAFT National Protected Agriculture Stewardship Standards.

Any comments or feedback are to be submitted in writing to the Chair of the National Protected Agricultural Stewardship Standards Technical Committee (Russel Hurst, VP, Stewardship & Sustainability, CropLife Canada). The 45-day consultation period commences **January 02, 2020** with a submission deadline of **February 14, 2020**.

View the DRAFT National Protected Agriculture Stewardship Standards [here](#) (hyperlink).

For submissions contact:

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Section A: Pesticide Handling & Storage

<p>Protocol A1: Within the pesticide storage/application area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) No smoking, drinking and eating sign is posted within the storage/application area; b) The presence of applicable emergency equipment (incl. first aid kit, eye wash station, salvage container, absorbent material, shovel and broom); c) The presence of PPE for <u>everyday use</u> (incl. gloves, goggles, coveralls, respirator – as per label requirement); d) The presence of PPE for <u>emergency use</u> (incl. gloves, goggles, coveralls, respirator – as per label requirement); and e) All pesticides on premises have a label affixed to the container. 	<p>Compliance:</p> <p>Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the pesticide storage/application area to assess compliance.</p> <p>Note: PPE must correspond with pesticide label requirements.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A2: The pesticide storage/application area has retention curbing 10 cm in height around the perimeter of the protected area.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the pesticide storage/application area to assess compliance.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A3: The pesticide storage/application area has containment that is 110% of the maximum potential capacity of pesticides at any time.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the pesticide storage area and storage capacity calculations to assess compliance.</p> <p>Note: Calculation of maximum storage capacity and maximum volume capacity of spill containment. See supporting document for example calculation.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A4: The floors in the pesticide storage/application area have been rendered impervious to a chemical spill.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe that all cracks in the floor have been filled and have a smooth finish. See AWSA chemical warehouse floor sealant reference Bulletin.</p> <p>Note: floors may be constructed of cement, or catchment areas constructed of either plastic or metal.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A5: The operation does not have any active floor drains (unless directed to a dedicated catchment tank).</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the operation to assess compliance.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A6: The pesticide storage/application area has mechanical ventilation designated to provide a minimum of two air changes per hour when the area is occupied.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will examine the mechanical ventilation and review CFM documentation. See supporting document for example calculation.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A7: Within the operation there are portable fire extinguishers installed in or adjacent to corridors, exits, and on forklifts.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the premises for the presence of fire extinguishers.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A8: The operation has a posted inventory list and location of emergency equipment and supplies.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the pesticide storage/application area to assess compliance.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A9: There are no leaking pesticide packages/containers, open containers that are not <u>currently</u> in use within the operation.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the pesticide storage/application area to assess compliance.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol A10: All pesticides not actively being used are stored in the storage area.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the operation to assess compliance.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

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Section B: Pesticide Application

<p>Protocol B1: The operation has documented all pesticide applications (incl. time of application, pest identified, application rate and other applicable information based on the products used)</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operational pesticide application documentation. See supporting document for examples of pesticide application tracking templates.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol B2: Pesticide applications that require the posting of re-entry interval and pre-harvest interval are noted and adhered to.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operational safety documentation. Note: Safety information must correspond with pesticide label requirements. See supporting document for examples of posting documents.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

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Section C: Equipment Management

<p>Protocol C1:</p> <p>a) Operation has undertaken dye test on irrigation supply lines on an annual basis. Identified mitigation procedures are underway/have been completed; or</p> <p>b) If it is deemed that based on supply line configuration that a dye test is not feasible, an alternative process may be undertaken that is deemed equivalent to assess supply line rigor.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will review of records on file.</p>	
<p>Supporting Documentation: - Compliance with “Dye testing for greenhouse nutrient feed water facilities – Operations manual” (OGVG/N.J. Peralta Engineering Ltd.)</p>	
<p>Correction Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol C2: Application equipment is maintained in accordance with manufacturers specifications</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect written application equipment maintenance records and adherence to.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

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Section D: Site Management

<p>Protocol D1: Operation has developed a site map(s) (to scale) to identify potential risks that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Site layout map (incl. buildings, perimeters and drains, environmentally sensitive areas) b) Site runoff map (incl. elevation, drainage direction, soil type, presence of dikes, dams, well heads) 	<p>Compliance: Y/N Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will review maps on file, ensure accuracy. See supporting document for examples of site mapping templates.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D2: Materials and/or equipment required for the site containment plan are in place and readily available.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will observe the operation to assess compliance and confirm the presence of noted materials/equipment.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D3: Training has been provided to all applicable employees on safe pesticide handling and operating procedures as applicable to their job functions.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect the operations training records. See supporting document for examples of pesticide regulations and applicable training/certification by province.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D4: The individual responsible for the operation (or designate) has obtained applicable provincial pesticide certification.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect the presence of current certification. See supporting document for examples of pesticide regulations and applicable training/certification by province.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D5: Training for all employees has been provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Use, maintenance and storage of PPE b) Information on the rights of employees to refuse or stop unsafe work c) The use of an eye wash station d) Responsibilities of management and employees under the appropriate labor legislation e) Fire extinguisher training f) First aid/CPR g) Execution of the site Emergency Response plan 	<p>Compliance:</p> <p>Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect the operations training records.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D6: The site has written procedures for the care and use of the following emergency and safety equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) First aid kit b) Eyewash station c) Fire extinguishers d) PPE e) Spill cleanup equipment and supplies 	<p>Compliance:</p> <p>Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect the operations safety documentation.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

Protocol D7: The operation has written procedures for the proper handling, storage and disposal of contaminated products, rinsate, hazardous waste and other wastes that meet all legal requirements.	Compliance: Y/N
Audit Evidence: The auditor will inspect the operations safety documentation and procedures. See supporting document for examples of various waste disposal options.	
Corrective Actions:	Timeline:

Protocol D8: The operation has a copy of all current SDS for all pesticides handles	Compliance: Y/N
Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation (hard copy or electronic)	
Corrective Actions:	Timeline:

Protocol D9: The operation has established a procedure requiring all accidents/incidents to be investigated, recorded and reported (as applicable)	Compliance: Y/N
Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation. See supporting document for examples of various sample policies and templates.	
Corrective Actions:	Timeline:

Protocol D10: The operation has an Emergency Response Plan including a dedicated spill management/containment plan, is reviewed and updated annually.	Compliance: Y/N
Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation. See supporting document for examples of various sample plans and templates.	
Corrective Actions:	Timeline:

<p>Protocol D11: If the operation is located within 100 m of a water intake zone (i.e. either a municipal well, municipal drainage ditch or open body of water (i.e. river, lake, stream), flood plain (100 yr) a than a plan identifying specific measured that have been implemented to lessen the potential hazards of effluent run off).</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D12: Operation has management plan in place to collect, retain and reuse water used within irrigation system.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation. See supporting document for examples of various sample plans and templates.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

<p>Protocol D13: Operation has management plan in place to monitor water discharge. Develop process to responsible manage and eliminate – as applicable.</p>	<p>Compliance: Y/N</p>
<p>Audit Evidence The auditor will verify the presence of operations safety documentation. See supporting document for examples of various sample plans and templates.</p>	
<p>Corrective Actions:</p>	<p>Timeline:</p>

Definitions:

Protected area: the immediate pesticide storage/application space as defined by site management as evidenced by a site layout map.

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