

Guidance Note for Pesticide Stores

The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 contain legal requirements regarding the storage, sale and supply of pesticides. Requirements for pesticide distributors are summarised as follows:

- Distributors must take reasonable precautions when handling, storing and disposing of professional pesticides in order to ensure that such operations do not endanger human health or the environment. The **BASIS Nominated Store Keeper Training Course** is recognised by the Chemicals Regulation Directorate (CRD) as an acceptable qualification for demonstrating due diligence in relation to satisfying the legal requirements for storing professional pesticides. Course information is available at: www.cafre.ac.uk/nsk-award/
- From **26 November 2015** distributors of pesticides are required to have sufficient qualified staff available at the time of sale to provide advice to customers. Advice can be provided in person, by phone or via an online instant messaging service. Micro distributors are exempt from this requirement if they only sell non-professional products.

The **BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (sale and supply)** is recognised by CRD as an acceptable qualification for those who provide advice on products authorised for professional use. Course information is available at: www.cafre.ac.uk/basis

The **Crop Protection Association and Horticultural Trades Association - Using Garden Plant Protection Products Safely** is recognised by CRD as an acceptable qualification for those who provide advice on products authorised for non-professional use. Course information is available at: www.the-hta.org.uk (select Business Services - Careers and Training).

- From **26 November 2015** anyone purchasing professional pesticides must ensure that the intended user has a certificate of competence. Alternatively they must use the product under the direct supervision of a person who holds a specified certificate, where such supervision is being provided for the purposes of training. It will be an offence if this legal requirement is not met.

Distributors are not required to check that the purchaser or intended user holds the appropriate certificate of competence. However they are expected to remind purchasers of their legal obligations in this respect. Examples of how this could be done include having a notice at the premises or on the company website. Distributors are also expected to act responsibly by making enquiries when they don't know a purchaser.

The Plant Protection Products Regulations, DAERA Code of Practice and other useful information is available on the DAERA website at:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/departmental-responsibilities-regarding-pesticides>

Responsibility for enforcing these requirements rests with either the local councils or the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland as appropriate. You may be visited at some point to confirm your compliance with the regulations.



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