

# AGRICHEMICAL HANDLING FACILITY

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 309



Photo courtesy of  
Candi Gilpatric, NRCS

### AGRICHEMICAL HANDLING FACILITY

An agrichemical handling facility is a permanent structure with an impervious surface to provide an environmentally safe area for the handling of on-farm agrichemicals.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

To provide for the containment and isolation of spillage from on farm agrichemical mixing, loading, unloading, and rinsing operations in order to minimize pollution of, or harm to, the soil, water, air, plant, or animal resources and humans.

An operation and maintenance plan is developed to specify requirements for proper disposal of rinsate, exterior washwater, accumulated sediment, and spillage wastewater in accordance with the pesticide labeling requirements and Federal, State, and Local laws and codes.

The plan specifies:

- storm-water management, periodic inspection of hoses, piping,

pump(s), and testing of backflow prevention devices.

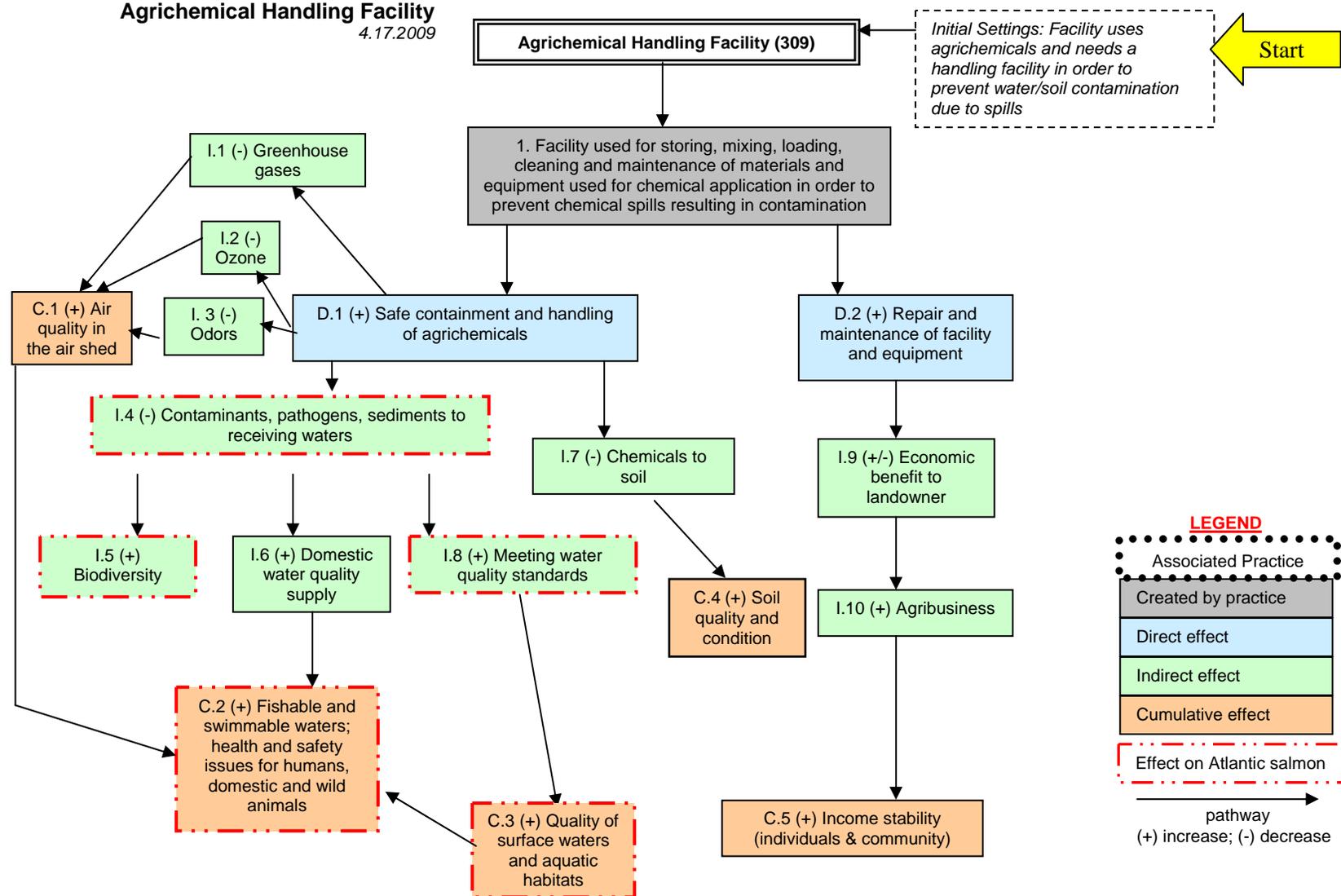
- Inspections of the pad and sump for cracks and leaks.
- Cleaning the sump and pad between different chemical mixing operations and removal of sediment accumulation from the sump, taking proper precautions to reduce worker exposure.
- Winterization of the facilities.
- Emergency response instructions in case of an accidental pesticide spill, exposure, fire, or other incident that could adversely affect environmental health.
- Posting of warning signs that hazardous chemicals are present.

Design criteria for this practice includes: site location, design storage volume, storage period, safety features, emptying facilities and fabricated structure criteria.

Additional information including detailed design criteria and specifications is in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

The following page identifies the conservation effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

**Agrichemical Handling Facility**  
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The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.