

2.3.4. Design and Maintenance of Storage Silos, Bins, Tanks and Sheds

Standard

Are storage silos, bins, tanks and sheds adequately designed, cleaned and maintained so that finished product quality is not compromised?

Refer to the SFMCA document [Feed Mill Hygiene Guide](#) and [FeedSafe Mill Hygiene Training Module](#)

Purpose

To ensure proper design of storage silos, bins, tanks and sheds, to prevent any damage or contamination from unintended mixing or spoilage. Additionally, a scheduled check or maintenance of these storage areas is implemented to ensure they are fit for purpose.

Reason

Silos, bins, tanks and sheds hold the majority of finished goods. The operators responsibility to maintain these areas is imperative to maintaining the quality of the product. Silos, bins and tanks show wear and tear over time and shall be checked to ensure foreign contamination shedding into finished goods does not occur.

The design and maintenance of sheds is important to ensure correct zoning of finished goods, and foreign contaminants from pests, or inappropriate cleaning, is controlled.

What is Acceptable?

Design of storage areas is discussed in Fact Sheet 2.3.1, these principles remain the same for consistency of storage management. The labelling of bins, silos, tanks shall adhere to Fact Sheet 2.3.2 and 2.3.3, with records of what is stored in each. Any risk assessment shall be documented in your HACCP Plan (Fact Sheets 5.2.1 to 5.2.4), ensure to consider physical, chemical and biological contaminants.

Storage Area Zoning

Finished goods storage in silos, bins, and tanks shall be designed in a way to segregate high-risk, medicated or RAM feeds from non-target species. The zoning shall be documented on operators site plan (Fact Sheet 2.1.1).

Maintenance and Cleaning

Maintenance can be assured in two ways. The operator implements a preventative maintenance program, ensuring a section is dedicated to checking the integrity and quality of all storage equipment (For additional information, see Fact Sheet 2.2.4). Also, a weekly or fortnightly site walk where visual inspections are recorded. This is a proactive approach for checking condition of storage equipment's.

General Maintenance and cleaning can be found on Fact Sheet 2.3.5, the same principles apply for finished goods.

Shed Design, Cleaning and Maintenance

Sheds shall be designed in a way to prevent obvious contamination and transport of finished goods. Movement of finished goods from silos, bins or tanks shall take into consideration the category or risk profile of product.

Where a set temperature is required to maintaining finished goods, this shall be specified in finished good specification and production sheets.

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