

Pesticide Handling Facilities

Date published: 8 December, 2022

For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#).

Aim

The aim of this item is to improve water quality by reducing the risks of water pollution arising from the handling and mixing of pesticides on farm steadings.

Constructed pesticide sprayer loading and washdown areas, biobeds, biofilters, washdown areas, drip trays and portable bunds all have the potential to improve water quality by preventing run-off entering the water environment.

Eligibility

Any land is eligible, provided that it meets all of the requirements set out below.

Spatial targeting



[Map of target area – Pesticide Handling Facilities \(PDF, Size: 1.2 MB\)](#)

doc_external_url: <https://www.ruralpaymentsandservices.org/media/resources/87332-AECS-Review---2018-map---WQ-Pesticide-handling-facilities.pdf> This item is available within the target area shown on this map.

You can check if this item is available on your holding using the search targeting tool which can be found on any of the following AECS guidance pages:

[AECS Home](#)

[Eligibility](#)

[How to Apply](#)

[Management Options and Capital Items](#)

[Capital Items](#)

Application requirements

You must produce a [diffuse pollution steering assessment](#).

Requirements

- pesticide sprayer loading and washdown area must be impermeable and a collection facility must be provided to collect run-off
- the width of the sprayer loading and washdown area must be at least two metres wider than the transport width of the sprayer and at least 1.5 metres longer - NB while the bunded area can be greater than the minimum described above, the payment will be limited to the minimum area. See further details in design guidelines of supporting guidance
- pesticide handling facilities must not be located within 10 metres of the water environment or a surface water drain, or within 50 metres of any spring or uncapped well or borehole that supplies water for human consumption
- a waste exemption must be registered with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for the use of a biobed or biofilter

Payment

You can claim:

Standard cost items

- concrete bunded area – £102 per square metre
- offset biobed (not including concrete bunded area) – £75 per square metre
- biofilter – £3,100 per installed unit
- closed transfer pesticide filling system – £600
- drip trays / portable bunds:
 - plastic drip tray – minimum 100 litre capacity – £50
 - shallow spill sump – minimum 150 litre capacity – £170
 - shallow spill sump – minimum 350 litre capacity – £233
 - deep spill sump minimum 2,000 litre capacity – £590
 - spill kit (to absorb at least 45 litres) – £75

Actual cost items

To ensure value for money we require you to provide three competitive quotes, which are based on actual cost, for drive-over biobeds.

Items included within the costs can include:

- pumps and pump chambers, including electric supply and time switches
- liner for water storage tanks
- drive-over grids
- drip irrigation system
- excavation and installation

Inspections

The inspectors will check:

- location and extent of any concrete bunded area
- location and extent of any offset biobed (not including concrete bunded area)
- that there is a biofilter
- that there is a closed-transfer pesticide filling system
- that there are drip trays / portable bunds (this may involve an invoice check):
 - plastic drip tray
 - shallow spill sump
 - shallow spill sump
 - deep spill sump minimum
 - spill kit
- pesticide sprayer loading and wash-down area is impermeable and a collection facility is provided to collect run-off
- the width of the sprayer loading and wash-down area is at least two metres wider than the transport width of the sprayer and at least 1.5 metres longer
- pesticide handling facilities are not be located within 10 metres of the water environment or a surface water drain, or within 50 metres of any spring or uncapped well or borehole that supplies water for human consumption

Additional guidance

[Supporting guidance is available for this option.](#)

Recent changes

Section	Change
Application Requirements	Insertion of link to Diffuse Pollution Risk assessment and Diffuse Pollution Steading Assessment web page

Previous versions

[Previous versions of this page](#)

[Download guidance](#)

Click 'Download this page' to create a printable version of this guidance you can save or print out.