

## ONE COLLEGES SOLUTION TO CHEMICAL STORAGE

The Western Australian College of Agriculture, Morawa met EPA standards with forethought and creative thinking when designing and building their Chemical Store Shed.

A two car lock up garage was professionally erected measuring 6 x 6 metres. A fully sealed concrete floor and bund wall is angled to ensure any accidental spillage runs to the corner of the shed leading to a drain which is attached to an outside chemical spillage tank.



Storage within the shed includes galvanised mesh stands raised 200 millimetres off the ground. Metal drums, granules and bags are stored on the mesh stands to prevent rusting.

Enviro Drums are used for the bulk of chemicals along with some 20 litre and granular containers.

The ceiling has been fitted with two whirly birds for ventilation. A number of mesh air vents will be fitted to the lower part of the shed walls in the near future to aid in further ventilation.

Scales are set up on a bench for weighting of chemicals. The scales have been tested and compared to Australia Post scales to insure accuracy.

Chemical batches, when purchased, have batch numbers, quantity and supplier names recorded for quality assurance purposes.

The plastic chemical spill tank, holding approximately 2000 litres, lies next to the shed. It has a pipe leading to the drain outlet in the shed. The tank is covered with a heavy metal lid to insure limited access and also has a cm lock fitted for suction.



The area contains a 10,000 litre water tank to service the deluge system and the boom spray unit. A digital metre to enable accurate measuring of chemicals is used for the Enviro Drums.



A fenced refuse area has been erected to stop used drums and boxes from blowing away before collection.

Next to the shed an emergency shower has been installed.

A separate 2 metre shed butts up against the main shed for storage of safety equipment such as aprons, gloves, respirators, spare spray nozzles etc.

The area has been fitted with safety signage to warn of any dangers that may occur.

For safety reasons only two staff members have keys to the Chemical Shed. Limited access insures users are monitored and the shed is locked at all times.



The WA College of Agriculture – Morawa has managed to build a Chemical Shed using resources already available and manager's creative thinking has allowed the project to stay within a limited budget and at the same time meet the requirements of new EPA legislation.