



# Farmstead Security

## Checklist

### ■ Basic security and safety measures

- Have a watchdog and electronic monitoring equipment.
- A Key Cabinet is used for machinery, storage buildings, bins, etc.
- Keys are tagged with number corresponding to code in Key Cabinet.
- If you don't wish to utilize a code system, tags can have descriptions on them, although this may be easier to utilize if stolen or found.
- Duplicates are kept in a concealed secure storage container, preferably a safe.
- Copies of keys that are made are restricted.
- Procedures or systems to check in and out all visitors, especially non-essential, non-routine people.
- Key codes/padlocks are changed or swapped when employees leave.
- Entry is limited to vulnerable areas, i.e. one signed swing gate farm entry.
- Landscape features are used to screen views from busy roads or intersections, where people making multiple trips by would not be noticed.
- Roads leading to farmhouse are well maintained to keep visitors from straying.
- All vehicles are locked and keys are kept in Key Cabinet.
- Law enforcement is asked to do random daily drive-bys if suspicious activity is suspected.

- Access is restricted to farm computers specifically those that have important farm records or inventory on them.
- Secure computer connections are utilized when available and virus software is regularly updated.
- Vehicles are parked away from main roadways when not in operation.
- Doors locked and all hoses, tanks, tires and other essential components are inspected when returning.
- Security lights have been installed and debris has been removed to reduce hiding places.

### ■ Farm chemical hazards

#### Storage building is...

- Locked.
- Weatherproof.
- Heated.
- Well lit, inside and out.
- Not vulnerable to flood waters.
- Fenced in.
- Signed to mark hazardous materials.

#### Storage location...

- Contains emergency contact information.
- Has a secondary containment area around storage tank.
- Is free of excess supply of chemicals.
- Is neat and free of debris or empty containers.

#### Inventory list contains...

- Last updated date.
- Accurate floor plan.
- Good description of chemical and properties.
- Brief explanations for chemicals that require specific procedures.

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**Extension Service**

North Dakota State University  
Fargo, North Dakota 58105

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## ■ Farm employees understand to...

- Carry Private Applicators Certificate or Pesticide Handlers Safety Training.
- Inspect all hazardous materials shipped or delivered to the farm.
- Keep chemical mixing and loading sites free of containers when not in use.
- Keep a squirt bottle of fresh water on their person when working with chemicals.
- Provide information or a tour to emergency services coordinator as situation requires.
- Park application equipment in a secure area away from feed storage.
- Research or investigate all suspicious activity and file reports as appropriate with law enforcement.
- And are trained to utilize Emergency Response procedures.
- How and when to implement the Emergency Response Plan for the Farmstead.
- Find emergency contact numbers for local response agencies in the event of a situation in particular places (i.e. near phones).

## ■ Anhydrous ammonia storage tanks have...

- Locks installed on nurse tank valves.
- Hoses should be locked or removed and placed in a locked storage container.
- Fresh water available on storage tank.

## ■ Anhydrous ammonia storage tanks are...

- Stored well lit areas visible from 360°.
- Returned to dealer immediately when empty.
- NOT kept in low traffic areas or left in fields at night.

## ■ Farm fuels and lubricant use and storage

- An accurate, organized and up-to-date inventory.
- Locked access to storage buildings containing farm fuels or lubricants.
- Locked access to above and below ground fuel storage tank.

## ■ Dry fertilizer use and storage

- All dry fertilizer is securely stored.
- All fertilizer is housed in a weather proof building.
- Fertilizer is not left insecurely outside on trucks.

## ■ Water supply and system

- Pump and plumbing in secure insulated pump house.
- Well pipes hidden under ground.
- Concrete apron placed around the access pipe to well with locked pipe cap.

## ■ When hiring new employees do you

- Conduct background checks.
- Check immigration status.
- Screening of employees and volunteers.
- Maintain a 30-90 day probationary period restricting access or hours employees can work.
- Conduct random drug and alcohol tests at time of interviews as well as throughout employment.

## ■ Building structure security

### Buildings should have...

- Industrial grade locksets and door hardware is used.
- Back up lighting and electrical power for emergencies
- Electronic sensors or monitors are utilized where appropriate.
- New buildings are designed with both security and functionality in mind.

## ■ Commodity and seed storage and handling

### Do you...

- Accurate well maintained inventory of seed and commodity grains.
- Genetically modified and non modified grains are inventoried and stored separately.
- Bins well marked with a numbering system corresponding to inventory sheet.
- Bins are secure, including locks and other security measures for entry or tamper prevention.
- Bins have no decipherable markings to indicate to visitors what type of product they contain.
- Maintain accurate origination and destination locations on product that enters and leaves your farm.

## ■ Field crop security

See Crop Biosecurity program for additional information on this topic.

### Do you...

- Scout random portions of each field for unusual crop symptoms or damage to crop or non-crop plants.
- Routinely check fields near perimeters or access points for evidence of damage or tampering with plants.
- Contact agronomy specialists if you are unsure of type or extent of damage. County extension agents can also give you advice and assistance.

## ■ Livestock animal and herd security

See Animal Biosecurity program for additional information on this topic.

### Do you...

- Keep unauthorized persons and vehicles away from feeding and feed storage areas.
- Use foot baths or disposable footwear for visitors in livestock areas.
- Visitors are required to wear clean clothing or disposable coveralls.
- Survey information of International travel from visitors.
- Carefully choose and monitor feed suppliers if feed is purchased.
- Monitor feed to ensure no mammalian protein is being fed.
- Ensure effective fly, bird and rodent controls programs are in place to protect animals.



