



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Sustainable Production Grant

## Annex A Round 7

The Welsh Government Rural Communities -  
Rural Development Programme for Wales

2014-2020



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar  
gyfer Datblygu Gwledig:  
Ewrop yn Buddsoddi mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig  
European Agricultural Fund for  
Rural Development:  
Europe Investing in Rural Areas



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## Section 1 - Silage, slurry and oil storage requirements

The following regulations apply to the storage of silage, slurry and oil.

### **The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) Silage and Slurry (Wales) Regulations 2010 (SSAFO).**

These regulations set out the requirements for the design (capacity), construction and maintenance of storage facilities for silage, and slurry.

They apply to all installations completed since September 1991.

They require you to notify NRW, in writing, at least 14 days before using a system that is new, substantially enlarged or substantially re-constructed. NRW have forms available to help you provide the necessary information.

These regulations will be revoked and replaced by the **Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (The Regulations)** in phases. The following changes, in particular, should be noted in relation to the Sustainable Production Grant:

- From **1 March 2021**, The Regulations will replace the requirements relating to silage. In practice, the requirements will remain the same.

From 28 March 2021, the requirement to notify NRW, in writing, about a slurry or silage storage system that is new, substantially enlarged or substantially re-constructed, will change to *at least 14 days before construction begins*.

From 1 August 2024, the slurry storage requirements will change. The construction standards of SSAFO will be retained, but you will need to provide 5 months of slurry storage (6 months for pigs and poultry), or more if necessary to meet the other requirements of the regulations.

For further details, see  
[Storing silage and slurry](#)  
[Land-management](#)

### **Oil storage 2016 changes**

The requirements for agricultural oil storage were replaced by the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (Wales) Regulations 2016 in March 2016.

For further details, see [Oil Storage Regulations](#)

These regulations cover all agricultural oil tanks, regardless of the date of construction.

## Compliance Standards for slurry and silage

All slurry and silage stores must be built to meet the capacity and construction standards as per The Regulations summarised below. Exemptions to the construction requirements may apply to stores built, or in the process of being constructed, before 1991.

### Silage - Baled and field:

- Baled and wrapped or bagged silage must not be stored or opened within 10 metres of a watercourse.
- If you use field silage sites to make or store field silage, or non-baled silage in large bags, for example 'Ag bags', you must notify NRW at least 14 days before you first use the site.

### Silage clamps:

- The clamp base, effluent tank and drains must all be impermeable and resistant to attack from silage effluent. The base of the clamp must be designed and constructed in accordance with BS8007 or BS5502 Part 21.
- Where walls are used, the base must extend beyond walls. All silage clamps must include a perimeter drainage channel connecting to an effluent tank.
- All effluent must be collected and contained. The silage effluent tank capacity must be 20 litres/cubic metre of silo capacity – up to 1500 cubic metres, plus an additional 6.7 litres/cubic metre of silo capacity thereafter.
- No part of this installation should be within 10 metres of a watercourse or land drains.
- Clamps and drains must be capable of lasting for 20 years (with routine maintenance).
- Below-ground effluent tanks must be capable of lasting for 20 years without maintenance. A certificate to confirm suitable design and construction of tank and clamp must be sent to NRW 14 days before use. NRW must be informed before construction begins from **28 March 2021**.
- If the clamp has walls, they must be designed to BS5502 Part 22 and be resistant to attack from silage effluent.

### Slurry

- Slurry is defined in the regulations as liquid or semi-liquid matter composed of excreta produced by livestock while in a yard or building.
- Slurry definition includes parlour and yard washings, and any contaminated rainfall.
- Separating clean rainwater from roofs and yards can reduce the slurry storage capacity required.

- No part of the system may be situated within 10 metres of a watercourse, where slurry could enter unless NRW has agreed, in writing, the location and additional measures to avoid pollution.

## **Slurry storage facilities requirements**

- Slurry stores, tanks, pipes, and channels must be impermeable. Where walls of the slurry store are not impermeable (e.g. weeping wall stores), the base must extend beyond the walls and have perimeter drains that connect to a slurry tank.
  - The base and walls of the slurry storage tank, any effluent tank, channels and reception pit, and the walls of any pipes, must be protected against corrosion, as described in BS 5502, Part 50 (1993).
  - Slurry storage tank and reception pit must be designed to BS 5502, Part 50 (1993).
  - The reception pit and associated channels must normally hold at least two days slurry production, including likely rainwater.
  - From 1 August 2024, you must provide a minimum of five or six months slurry storage, dependant on the type of slurry produced.
  - The slurry storage tank must be designed to have a minimum freeboard of 300mm but earth banked stores must have a minimum 750mm freeboard to be maintained at all times.
  - All parts of the slurry storage system must be designed to last for 20 years with routine maintenance.
  - Any fixed drainage pipe from the slurry store must have 2 valves in series. These must be locked shut when not in use and for stores built since 2010 there must be at least 1 metre spacing between the valves.
- You should ensure that you only use capable contractors or builders who understand and build in accordance with the SSAFO regulations and the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021.
  - Silage effluent and slurry have been the source of serious pollution, often due to inadequate storage capacity or poor construction. Sufficient storage for silage effluent and slurry or manure is essential to prevent the need for spreading outside the growing season or during inappropriate weather and soil conditions.
  - Contact NRW as early as possible in the planning stage as they may be able to help save you time and money.
  - NRW can make sure you are complying with the regulations and minimising pollution risks in the most cost effective manner.

- If any silage-making, or slurry storage system store poses a significant risk of pollution to surface or to ground waters, then NRW may issue a Notice that requires you to make improvements.

Contact NRW on:

Email: [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

Tel: 0300 065 3000

or by post:

Natural Resources Wales,  
c/o Customer Care Centre, Ty Cambria,  
29 Newport Rd, Cardiff, CF24 0TP

## **Section 2 - Environmental Consents and Licences**

### **Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Local Authority (LA)**

If an applicant proposes to install capital items which affect slurry or silage storage systems, or which could affect water flow they are advised to consult with the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and/ or their Local Authority (LA) as consent may be required to carry out the work. Applicants must do this before committing themselves to any proposed work and before they submit an application for grant assistance under the scheme. Please note that the EAW/LA may charge for the relevant permissions. Applicants are advised to contact the EAW/LA early enough to confirm if relevant permission(s) is required for the proposed work. If the EAW/LA confirms that permission is required this must be supplied with the application. Applications cannot be processed until submission of any relevant permission(s) from the EAW/LA.

### **Planning consents, building regulations etc.**

Applicants must obtain any necessary planning consent and abide by any other relevant statutory requirements. Applicants also need to check that their proposals do not break any bylaws, obstruct rights of way, affect oil or gas pipelines etc, and must avoid damaging the countryside or causing pollution. Applications cannot be processed unless any relevant permission(s) are received.

With regards to planning consents, applicants must include either the original planning approval documents or original receipt from the local planning authority that the planning application has been submitted. The payment of any grant will not be made until the original planning approval documents have been received and approved by the Welsh Government.

## Annex A – List of Eligible Capital Items

The grant covers capital investments in equipment and machinery that have been pre-identified to address the impacts of on-farm pollution offering clear and quantifiable benefits to your farm enterprise and the wider environment.

Slurry storage facilitates will only be supported if the roofs and yards associated with rain water entering the proposed storage facility or any existing storage are made good first, by demonstrating the existing infrastructure can achieve this or by requesting the items necessary to do so through the SPG.

Where you produce slurry, if selected and to ensure eligibility for payment, you will be required to demonstrate how the grant will enable you to reach compliance, or work towards achieving compliance with the slurry storage capacity requirements of The Regulations by 1 August 2024.

Item Code	Investment	Description	Focus Area	Total Score
	<b>Stores – Roofed or covered</b>			
<b>SP53</b>	Under-floor storage and transfer channels	<p>To provide a location for storage for slurry prior to entering permanent storage or a means of transferring slurry from a place of collection to permanent storage.</p> <p>Includes stores for diluted slurry, such as run-off from dirty yards or solid manure stored on yards, the washings from buildings or yards used by livestock, store reception pits and associated pipes and channels.</p>	5d	221.25

		<p>The base and walls of channels or pits should be impermeable to stop polluted liquids getting out, or to prevent water getting in if they are built below ground. If slurry is emptied from channels to a reception pit through a sluice, the pit should be big enough to hold all the slurry that might be released.</p> <p>Slurry storage facilities must be built to BS5502, details can be found at CIRIA report C759b - Livestock manure and silage storage Part 2 Design and construction.</p> <p>Slatted floor areas for animal housing installed above under-floor storage or channels are not eligible for support.</p>		
<b>SP54</b>	Below-ground tanks/slurry stores and associated reception pits	<p>Below-ground stores, including slurry lagoons and concrete structures. Store should be big enough to suit the farming system and emptying method. Reception pits should be built to hold at least two days' slurry production, and dirty water taking into account likely rainfall. Provide adequate access arrangements if tanks and pits are to be emptied by tractor-drawn slurry tankers.</p>	5d	193.75



		Slurry storage facilities must be built to BS5502, details can be found at CIRIA report C759b - Livestock manure and silage storage Part 2 Design and construction.		
<b>SP55</b>	Above ground slurry stores	<p>Above ground, concrete or steel construction. These are suitable for storing slurry that is easy to pump.</p> <p>Reception pits should be built to hold at least two days' slurry production.</p> <p>Installation of fixed cover to divert rainwater from store eligible.</p> <p>Slurry storage facilities must be built to BS5502, details can be found at CIRIA report C759b - Livestock manure and silage storage Part 2 Design and construction.</p>	5d	193.75
<b>SP56</b>	Covered manure stores	<p>Farm yard (solid) manure (other than slurry) store. Suitable for any bedding contaminated with any organic manure that can be stacked without slumping.</p> <p>Must be covered (with a permanent roof) with a floor impermeable to water. The roofing and flooring are eligible costs. The base of outside walls should be</p>	5d	221.25

		<p>impermeable to stop polluted liquids getting out, or to prevent water getting in.</p> <p>Liquid arising from the solid manure (slurry) must be contained within the store or diverted to an existing slurry store or reception pit.</p> <p>Clean water from the roof must be diverted to a clean water drain or rainwater harvesting system.</p> <p>Slurry storage facilities must be built to BS5502, details can be found at CIRIA report C759b - Livestock manure and silage storage Part 2 Design and construction.</p>		
<b>SP57</b>	Systems for dilute slurry	Storage tanks, pumps, filters and control gear to manage level of dilute slurry within reception pits.	5d	147.5
<b>SP58</b>	Silage clamps	A storage facility for silage with the clamp base, effluent tank and drains being impermeable and resistant to attack from silage effluent. Built to BS5502	5d	227.5
<b>SP59</b>	Integral slurry store.	Reinforced PVC polyester coated fabric bag sitting within an earth structure. Restrained at sides, fitted with gas vents.	5d	195

Covers and roofing				
<b>SP60</b>	Fixed floating plastic membrane to cover a lagoon	<p>A large plastic sheet with integral floats and gas vents. The edges of the cover are secured to the lagoon banks ensuring that the structural integrity of the store is not impacted.</p> <p>Rainwater falling onto the cover surface must be diverted away from store to a clean water drain.</p>	5d	145
<b>SP61</b>	Free floating plastic cover for above ground slurry stores	<p>Plastic sheet stretched over the store and tensioned around a plastic hoop, which floats on the surface.</p> <p>Rainwater falling onto the cover surface must be diverted away from store to a clean water drain.</p>	5d	140
<b>SP62</b>	Fixed cover for above ground slurry tank	<p>Reinforced PVC polyester coated fabric or tin cover. Normally these types of cover are attached to the sides of the tank with centre support pole and gas vents.</p> <p>Rain water falling onto the cover surface must be diverted away from store.</p>	5d	165

<p><b>SP63</b></p>	<p>Roofing for existing yards</p>	<p>Roof structure, including supporting uprights and rainwater goods, impermeable to rainwater to cover existing livestock feeding areas, livestock gathering areas,, existing manure storage areas, slurry stores and silage stores.</p> <p>Slurry from covered livestock feeding or livestock gathering area must be diverted to a slurry store or reception pit.</p> <p>Liquid arising from the solid manure (slurry) must be contained within the store or diverted to a slurry store or reception pit.</p> <p>Clean water from the roof must be diverted to a clean water drain or rain water harvesting system.</p> <p>Does not include any walls, flooring or associated drainage.</p>	<p>2a</p>	<p>112.5</p>
<p><b>Tanks and Spreading</b></p>				
<p><b>SP64</b></p>	<p>Vacuum tanker plus Band Spreader or Trailing Shoe</p>	<p>Vacuum tanker: Slurry is sucked into the tanker by using an air pump to evacuate the air from the tank to create a vacuum; the tanker is emptied using the air pump to pressurise the tanker, so forcing the slurry out.</p>	<p>5d</p>	<p>156.25</p>

		<p>Band Spreader: The boom of the spreader has a number of hoses connected to it, distributing the slurry close to the ground in strips or bands. It is fed with slurry from a single pipe, thus relying on the pressure at each of the hose outlets to provide even distribution. Advanced systems use rotary distributors to proportion the slurry evenly to each outlet.</p> <p>Trailing Shoe: Has similar configuration to the band spreader, but with a shoe added to each hose allowing the slurry to be deposited under the crop canopy onto the soil.</p>		
<b>SP65</b>	Vacuum tanker plus Injector (Slurry)	<p>Slurry is sucked into the tanker by using an air pump to evacuate the air from the tank to create a vacuum; the tanker is emptied using the air pump to pressurise the tanker, so forcing the slurry out.</p> <p>Injector: Slurry is injected under the soil surface. There are various types of injector but each fits into one of two categories: either open slot shallow injection, up to 50 mm deep; or deep injection over 150 mm deep.</p>	5d	161.25
<b>SP66</b>	Pumped tanker plus Band Spreader or trailing shoe.	Pumped tanker: The slurry is pumped into and from the tanker using a slurry pump, either a centrifugal (e.g. impeller type) or	5d	156.25

		<p>positive displacement (e.g. lobe type) pump.</p> <p>Band Spreader: The boom of the spreader has a number of hoses connected to it, distributing the slurry close to the ground in strips or bands. It is fed with slurry from a single pipe, thus relying on the pressure at each of the hose outlets to provide even distribution. Advanced systems use rotary distributors to proportion the slurry evenly to each outlet.</p> <p>Trailing Shoe: Has similar configuration to the band spreader, but with a shoe added to each hose allowing the slurry to be deposited under the crop canopy onto the soil.</p>		
<b>SP67</b>	Pumped tanker plus Injector (Slurry)	<p>Pumped tanker: The slurry is pumped into and from the tanker using a slurry pump, either a centrifugal (e.g. impeller type) or positive displacement (e.g. lobe type) pump.</p> <p>Injector: Slurry is injected under the soil surface. There are various types of injector but each fits into one of two categories: either open slot shallow</p>	5d	156.25

		injection, up to 50 mm deep; or deep injection over 150 mm deep.		
<b>SP68</b>	Band Spreader or trailing shoe	<p>Band spreader: The boom of the spreader has a number of hoses connected to it, distributing the slurry close to the ground in strips or bands. It is fed with slurry from a single pipe, thus relying on the pressure at each of the hose outlets to provide even distribution. Advanced systems use rotary distributors to proportion the slurry evenly to each outlet.</p> <p>Trailing shoe is a similar configuration to the band spreader with a shoe added to each hose allowing the slurry to be deposited under the crop canopy onto the soil</p>	5d	180
<b>SP69</b>	Umbilical hose plus Band Spreader or trailing shoe	The slurry is fed by a drag hose to the distribution system fitted to the tractor; the hose is supplied with slurry usually direct from the slurry store by a centrifugal or positive displacement pump.	5d	170
<b>SP70</b>	Umbilical hose plus Injector (Slurry)	The slurry is fed by a drag hose to the distribution system fitted to the tractor; the hose is supplied with slurry usually direct from the slurry store by a centrifugal or positive displacement pump.	5d	175

<b>SP71</b>	Umbilical hose plus Irrigator	The slurry is fed by a drag hose to the distribution system fitted to the tractor; the hose is supplied with slurry usually direct from the slurry store by a centrifugal or positive displacement pump.	5d	145
<b>SP72</b>	Irrigator	This is a self-travelling machine with flexible or reeled-in hoses usually fed from a network of underground pipes, with a centrifugal or positive displacement pump, situated near the slurry store.	5d	130
<b>SP73</b>	Injector (Slurry)	Slurry is injected under the soil surface. There are various types of injector but each fits into one of two categories: either open slot shallow injection, up to 50 mm deep; or deep injection over 150 mm deep	5d	190
<b>SP74</b>	Variable rate controller for sprayers and fertiliser spreaders	An electronic device to connect to an existing sprayer or fertiliser spreader for the purposes of variable rate application. The regulation system will work from either a pressure or a flow sensor and provide information on forward speed, application rate, total and partial area, total and partial volume applied, boom and section status and pressure, flow rate and tank level.	5d	200



<p><b>SP75</b></p>	<p>Farmyard manure rotaspreader, rear discharge spreader or dual-purpose spreader.</p>	<p>Rotaspreader: Side discharge spreader which features a cylindrical body and a pto-driven shaft fitted with flails running along the centre of the cylinder. As the rotor spins, the flails throw the solid manure out to the side.</p> <p>Rear discharge spreader: Trailer body fitted with a moving floor or other mechanism which delivers solid manure to the rear of the spreader. The spreading mechanism can have either vertical or horizontal beaters, plus, in some cases, spinning discs.</p> <p>Dual purpose spreader: Side discharge spreader with an open top V-shaped body capable of handling both slurry and solid manure. A fast spinning impeller or rotor, usually at the front of the spreader, throws the material from the side of the machine. The rotor is fed with material by an auger or other mechanism fitted in the base of the spreader and a sliding gate controls the flow rate of the material onto the rotor.</p>	<p>5d</p>	<p>123.75</p>
<p><b>Chemical/Pesticide/Fuel oil storage</b></p>				
<p><b>SP76</b></p>	<p>Fuel tanks and bunds</p>	<p>Storage tank and associated pipe-work. The installed system must comply with the</p>	<p>2a</p>	<p>50</p>

		<p>requirements of the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (Wales) Regulations 2016 The storage tank must be fit for purpose and provided with secondary containment (usually a bund) which can contain no less than 110% of the contents of the tank.</p> <p>The Regulations also contain specifications regarding fill points, dispensing equipment and overflow pipework which must be complied with. The materials for the tank and bund must be impermeable to the oil stored in them.</p>		
<b>SP77</b>	Chemical Storage	Secure (lockable) bunded building or storage unit with suitable drainage to collect spillage. Frost protection. Possibly linked with filling/wash-down pad	2a	50
	<b>Other General</b>			
<b>SP78</b>	Slurry Analysis Kit	On-farm testing kit for accurate analysis of the plant available nitrogen in wet and dry slurry/manure.	5d	190
<b>SP79</b>	Soil Testing kit	On-farm dual purpose testing kits for measuring both soil ph and lime requirement	5d	190

<b>SP80</b>	Livestock yard renewal and underground drainage pipework	Livestock yard renewal and underground drainage pipework, (New livestock yards are not eligible)	2a	120
<b>SP81</b>	Rainwater goods	Internal or external disposal systems for taking rainwater from roofs etc. to the first underground drain connection or gully, includes gutters, downpipes etc. Includes storage tanks.	2a	160
<b>SP82</b>	First-flush rainwater diverters/downpipe filters	First-flush rainwater diverters/downpipe filters	2a	160
<b>SP83</b>	GPS for precision farming	A stand alone GPS unit with automatic field boundary measurement and field recognition. It should have a minimum capability of straight and curved guidance modes with the ability to print maps	5d	202.5
<b>SP84</b>	GPS and flow systems for slurry application	Slurry flow meter, cab display/controller and GPS system	5d	202.5
<b>SP85</b>	Calibration trays	Set of trays for calibration of fertiliser spreaders. Trays to include baffle to prevent prills bouncing off tray, measuring equipment to calculate weight spread per unit area.	5d	220
<b>SP86</b>	Field nurse tank	Used to transport various agricultural chemicals and liquids to the point of application.	5d	180

<b>SP87</b>	Robotic silage pusher	Robotic system with intelligent software and programmable for the intended feed passage. The equipment should have the capability to detect the distance from the feed barrier along with the amount of feed in the passage	5b	85
<b>SP88</b>	Electric scraper systems	Slurry scraping system with electric motors. To run automatically. (Replace a tractor scraping system) hydraulic drive or rope / chain winch. Excludes installation costs.	5b	107.5
<b>SP89</b>	Slurry separator	Slurry pump and separator unit to separate liquid from the fibre fraction in animal slurries.	2a	130
<b>SP90</b>	Pumps (Slurry)	High pressure slurry pumps for use with umbilical hose. Centrifugal or Positive displacement	5d	120
<b>SP91</b>	Sprayer filling/wash-down pad	Bunded and/or covered concrete pad to contain spillage/wash-down water from crop sprayer.	2a	90
<b>SP92</b>	Air Scrubbers	Multi-pollutant scrubbers for removal of ammonia, odour, and particulate matter from livestock housing.	5d	130

<b>SP93</b>	Hand held gas detector	Portable gas monitors which can aid farmers in staying safe while working around slurry. Gas monitors which monitor up to 4 gases - Oxygen, Carbon Monoxide, Methane and Hydrogen Sulphide.	2a	37.5
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## **Contacts**

### **RPW Online**

Access the RPW Online service via the Government Gateway at [www.gateway.gov.uk](http://www.gateway.gov.uk), or once you have enrolled for the RPW Online service, access it via [RPWOnline](#). If you are not yet registered with RPW Online, please refer to the Welsh Government website for the how to register guidance or call the Customer Contact Centre on 0300 062 5004.

### **Enquiries – Customer Contact Centre**

For all enquiries, please contact the [RPW Customer Contact Centre](#)

Enquiries can be submitted via RPW Online at any time.

### **Access to Welsh Government offices for people with disabilities or special needs**

If you have any special needs which you feel are not met by our facilities contact the Customer Contact Centre on 0300 062 5004. Welsh Government officials will then endeavour to make arrangements to accommodate your requirements.

### **Welsh Government Website**

For all of the latest Agricultural and Rural Affairs information, visit the Welsh Government website. By visiting the website, you can also sign up to receive the Gwlad e-news letter.