

Dear Grower,

Temporary Storage Extension Harvest 2017

SQC has a Standard which says that temporary stores must be empty by the 31st of October.

However, farming in a country where late harvests are not unknown there is a guidance note in place which reads "GN 4.1.1 Should harvesting be abnormally late where crops are unharvested on 1 October, a grower may, no later than 14 October, apply to the Certification Body for the granting of an extension of the 31 October deadline for the temporary store usage.

This derogation has now been put in place for all growers with temporary stores which must be emptied of combinable crop by 30th November 2017 and there is no need to make an individual application to SQC's Certification Body.

Addendum to SQC Standards Revised September 2017

- 2.9 At the time of spraying, all Spray Operators must hold a NPTC Certificate of Competence, applicable to the sprayer or applicator. *HACCP Process 5*

All spray operators, including those applying trace elements and/or slug pellets, must undergo continual professional development (CPD) by obtaining CPD through the SQC Spray Operators Course, then growers must ensure annual attendance to comply with the standard, or otherwise earning a minimum of 10 CPD points as a member of the National Register of Spray Operators Scheme (NRoSO) during the previous scheme year or before the assessment of the current scheme year (1st October – 30th September). Those who have taken and passed their NPTC Certificate of Competence (PA1, PA2A, PA4S as a minimum) during the current Scheme Standard year will not have to undergo CPD until the following year. Growers must have proof of the Spray Operator's CPD at the time of assessment.

GN 2.9 Spray operators must hold a copy of the relevant Certificate of Competence number PA1; PA2; PA3; PA4S or G PA6A; PA11. Those who do not hold a Certificate of Competence must not apply crop protection products.

The people who may operate the sprayer are therefore those who have a Certificate of Competence AND have an up-to-date CPD record for the assessment year.

*SQC Sprayer Operator Courses run from November to June each year. If obtaining CPD through the SQC Sprayer Operators Course, then growers must ensure annual attendance to comply with this standard. Members of NRoSO must demonstrate that they have earned a minimum of 10 CPD points either during the previous Scheme Standard year (1st Oct to 30th Sept) or before the assessment in the current scheme year **Updated Sept 2017***



Andrew Moir,
SQC Chairman



Archi Lamont, Chairman
SQC Technical Advisory Committee