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## AGRICULTURAL SAFETY TOPICS

### FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

#### Objective:

To be able to use flammable liquids in a safe manner.

#### Background:

##### Safe Practices to Follow When Using Flammable Liquids:

Flammables should be stored in a self-closing safety can. Storing flammables in open containers can cause the liquid to vaporize and create an ignitable mixture. This could result in an explosion, if a lit match or spark is present. Store gasoline in a red container. Remember it will ignite when coming into contact with a sufficiently hot surface. This is why it is important to allow the engine to cool before refueling.

##### Storing Liquid-Soaked Rags

Store liquid-soaked rags in a metal container with a tight-fitting lid. This keeps oxygen away from the rags, reducing the possibility of a fire. When exposed to air, some rags can produce enough heat to ignite spontaneously. Keep all flammables in a specific storage cabinet, well identified with warning signs.

##### Fire Control

Control all ignition sources. Ignition sources around flammables increase the likelihood of a fire. Enforce the **“no smoking”** rule around flammable liquids. Keep sparking tools away from flammables. Use explosion- proof electrical equipment.

Ground and bond all bulk containers during dispensing operations. It is important to ground and bond bulk containers because some materials can be ignited by the minimal energy in a static spark. There must be a conductive connection between the receiving container, dispensing container and a specially installed ground pipe. When drawing liquids from a bulk tank to a portable use container, the container should have a solid connection between the tank or barrel and the container. Using self-closing valves with the dispensing containers, limits spills.

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### Clean Up

Clean up and dispose of spilled material according to local, provincial and federal regulations.

### Identification

Typically, flammable liquid containers are identified by a symbol of a flame.

### Review the Following Points:

- Flammables should not be stored in open or unapproved containers.
- Store flammables in a special storage cabinet that is well identified with warning signs for everyone to see.
- Control all ignition sources around flammable liquids.
- Never smoke around flammable liquids.
- Ground and bond bulk containers because some materials can be ignited by the minimal energy in a static spark.

Based upon: Ohio State University Extension. *Flammable Liquids*. Retrieved from website <http://ohioline.osu.edu/atts/modules.html>

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