

~~SUPERSEDED~~ BY

AS 2507-1984

Amendment 1 - November 1982

U.S.

AS 2507

AS 2507—1981

UDC 661:656.073.004.4:614.878:632.95

Australian Standard 2507—1981

THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF PESTICIDES

[Title allocated by Defence Cataloguing Authority:
THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL
MATERIALS—PESTICIDES]



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Incorporated by Royal Charter



THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Association of Australia
Australian Chamber of Commerce
Australian Chemical Industry Council
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Australian Institute of Petroleum
Australian Medical Association
Australian Road Transport Federation
Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales
Confederation of Australian Industry
Country Fire Authority, Victoria
Department of Defence
Department of Industrial Relations and Technology, N.S.W.
Department of Minerals and Energy
Department of Industry and Commerce
Department of Science and Technology
Department of Transport
Health Commission of New South Wales
Insurance Council of Australia
Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board, Melbourne
National Health and Medical Research Council
National Safety Council of Australia (Victorian Division)
Public Health Department, Western Australia
Railways of Australia Committee
University of Sydney

This standard, prepared by Committee CH/9, Safe Handling of Chemicals, was approved by the Chemical Standards Board on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 21 August 1981, and was published on 19 October 1981.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are subject to continuous review and are kept up-to-date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that standards users ensure that their standards are up-to-date. Full details of all SAA publications will be found in the Annual List of Australian Standards; these details are supplemented by listings in the SAA monthly journal 'The Australian Standard'. Information on the Annual List and 'The Australian Standard' may be obtained from any sales office of the Association, where details are also available of the current status of individual standards. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 79078.

9 NOV 1982

AS 2507/Amdt 1/1982-11-08

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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Amendment No 1

to

AS 2507—1981

THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF PESTICIDES

CORRECTIONS

SUMMARY: This amendment applies to Fig. 2.2.

Published on 8 November 1982.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF PESTICIDES

AS 2507—1981

First published1981



PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.

ISBN 0 7262 2401 4

22 OCT 1981

PREFACE

This standard was prepared under the supervision of the Association's Committee for Safe Handling of Chemicals, by a subcommittee specially constituted for this purpose. It is one of a series of standards designed to provide safety information for the storage, handling and transport of hazardous chemical materials. This series includes guides for storage and handling, and for transport emergency procedures, respectively. It should be recognized that some parts of this standard are intended primarily for educational purposes, more particularly for persons unfamiliar with the technical aspects of pesticides.

Pesticides stores, because of the products dealt with, present a potential hazard to people and property. They are subject to regulation under separate legislation in each State.

During the development of this standard, the separate legislative requirements of each State were studied and an extensive survey was undertaken so as to establish the practices followed in the storage and handling of pesticides in Australia and to identify the associated problems. Particular acknowledgement is made of the valuable contributions made in this survey by the following organizations:

Bayer Australia Ltd
 Consolidated Fertilizers Ltd
 Health Commission of New South Wales
 ICI Australia Ltd
 National Health & Medical Research Council
 Shell Chemical (Australia) Pty Ltd

Pesticides fall within several classes which are almost invariably stored and usually transported together in packages rather than in bulk, and often with general goods. Thus it is essential that practices and procedures take account of this, rather than leave to the user the problem of integrating the separate advices for individual materials. This represents the rationale for treating pesticides as a group and separate from other materials.

This standard makes reference to the following Australian standards:

AS 1216	Classification, Hazard Identification and Information Systems for Dangerous Goods Part 1—Classification and Class Labels for Dangerous Goods
AS 1337	Eye Protectors for Industrial Applications
AS 1530	Methods for Fire Tests on Building Materials and Structures Part 1—Combustibility Test for Materials
AS 1674	Fire Precautions in Cutting, Heating and Welding Operations
AS 1678	Emergency Procedure Guide—Transport Pesticides*
AS 1680	Code of Practice for Interior Lighting and the Visual Environment
AS 1716	Respiratory Protection Devices
AS 1725	Galvanized Rail-less Chainwire Security Fences and Gates
AS 1801	Industrial Safety Helmets
AS 1940	SAA Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code
AS 2161	Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens (Excluding Electrical and Medical Gloves)
AS 2210	Safety Footwear
AS L28	Men's Coveralls
AS 2508	Safe Storage and Handling Information Cards Pesticides*

*In course of preparation.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF PESTICIDES

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This standard sets out requirements, procedures and precautions designed to promote safety of persons and property associated with the storage and handling of pesticides. It does not deal with the use of pesticides.

1.2 APPLICATION. The standard applies to the storage of pesticides, whether open or covered, in depots, warehouses and stores. It is not intended to apply to areas where limited materials are displayed and advertised on shelves for sale to the public such as in the retail section of supermarkets, hardware stores and home garden outlets. Although intended to include the on-farm storage situation, some of the provisions contained in this standard may not be appropriate to small-scale on-farm storage. In such cases, the basic principles of security with respect to accessibility should apply.

NOTES:

1. Notwithstanding anything in this standard, regulations under Acts and other statutory requirements are also to be observed.
2. Additional advice may be required of the supplier of the goods or other appropriate authority.

1.3 DEFINITION. For the purposes of this standard, the following definition applies:

Pesticide—any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing or controlling any unwanted species of plants and animals and also includes any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant-growth regulator, defoliant or desiccant.

NOTE: The term pesticide includes any substance used for the control of pests during the production, storage, transport, marketing or processing of food for man or animals or which may be administered to animals for the control of insects or arachnids in or on their bodies. It does not include antibiotics or other chemicals administered to animals for other purposes, such as to stimulate their growth or to modify their reproductive behaviour; nor does it include fertilizers or antifouling surface coatings.

The following are examples of materials included within this definition:

- Insecticides
- Fungicides
- Herbicides/Weedicides
- Fumigants
- Nematicides
- Rodenticides
- Defoliants
- Growth Regulators
- Acaricides
- Veterinary Chemicals

1.4 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS OF GOODS.

1.4.1 Physical Form. Pesticides as marketed can occur in all three physical forms, viz:

- (a) *Liquid.* Typical examples are parathion, paraquat and DEF defoliant. Some liquid pesticides are in fact a solution of a solid active agent in a suitable solvent, e.g. in a hydrocarbon type material. Predominantly, the action of liquid pesticides is the result of contact or ingestion by the organisms to be controlled. They are normally used as sprays but can also be used in the form of aerosols or fogs.
- (b) *Solid.* Typical example is derris dust (rotenone). The action of solid pesticides is similar to that of liquids. Solids can be applied as dusts, in solution, in suspension, as granules, pellets or prills or as prepared vermin baits.
- (c) *Gas/Vapour*.* This form is typical mainly of the fumigants, e.g. methyl bromide. Although some pesticides are in the solid or liquid state, their pesticidal action is due either to vaporization, e.g. 1,4-dichlorobenzene, or to chemical reaction to form a gas, e.g. aluminium phosphide.

*Provision for the storage and handling of fumigants and other volatile pesticides will be included in a separate standard, in course of preparation.