



Health and Safety in Farming

HSNO brief for farmers – Signage for fuels on farms



Signage for fuel storage

All bulk fuel stored on your farm needs to have appropriate signage. Signs are required regardless of whether the fuel is stored in tanks, drums or any other type of container.

Signs ensure people are informed of hazards, can minimise risks and be aware of what to do if anything goes wrong.

When do I need signage?

You need to have signage on all bulk fuel tanks and where you have containers with more than:

- 250 litres of petrol or aviation gasoline;
- 1,000 litres of diesel or kerosene.

What are the requirements?

Signs need to be visible to people entering the area where the fuel is stored.

These signs tell people that the area contains petrol, diesel (or other fuels), outlines the hazards of these fuels and explains what must be done to manage the hazards.

The signs must also inform people what to do in an emergency and who to contact. They will alert emergency services that fuel is present if they have to respond to deal with an emergency.

The information required on a sign can be in the form of pictures or words, and must be able to be read from 10 metres away and be understandable.

For fuel tanks, the signs on each tank (such as the examples overleaf) need to be at least 29 cm by 42 cm (A3) in size.

Further information

Best practice for fuel storage can be found in the *Approved Practice Guide for Safe Above-Ground Fuel Storage on Farms*, available from:
<http://www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/publications/pdfs/ER-APG-03-1.pdf>

See also the New Zealand Chemical Industry Council *Signage for Premises Storing Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods*.

You should also check with your councils to see if they have any requirements in their District or Regional Plans.

Information is also available from the ERMA New Zealand Hazardous Substance Compliance Line 0800 376 234.

