



Health and Safety in Farming

HSNO brief for farmers – Test certificates for fuel stores



Farm test certificate requirements

You may need a location test certificate and/or a stationary container test certificate for the fuel that you store. The certificates you may require will depend on the quantity of fuel you have and how it is stored. The table overleaf sets out the requirements.

Petrol stored in above ground tanks, drums or containers can be exempt from the location test certificate requirements. To be exempt, your farm must be greater than 4 hectares and any tank, drum or container must:

- comply with the design, construction and installation requirements; and
- be at least 20 metres (above ground tanks) or 15 metres (drums) from dwellings or other buildings made of combustible materials; and
- be at least 6 metres from other dangerous goods or combustible materials; and
- be compounded (bunded) or located so that any spillage will not endanger any building, or flow into any natural water body.

If you store more than 50 litres of petrol and can't meet these requirements, you are required to obtain a location test certificate. Diesel storage does not require a location test certificate.

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>

A list of test certifiers is available from:
<http://www.ermanz.govt.nz/search/tc.html>
To find a test certifier operating in your area, choose your **Region**, tick the **Location Test Certificates (class 2 – 5)** box and/or the **Stationary Container Systems** box and press **Search**.

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

| Petrol | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Location Test Certificate | Above Ground Tank | | Below Ground Tank | | Drums or Containers | |
| | Up to 2,000 L | More than 2,000 L | Any capacity | | Up to 2,000 L | More than 2,000 L |
| | Exempt | ✓ ¹ | ✓ | | Exempt | ✓ |
| Stationary Container Test Certificate | Up to 2,500 L | More than 2,500 L | Any capacity | | Not required | |
| New Tanks | Exempt | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Existing Tanks ² | Exempt | ✓ | Up to 5,000 L | More than 5,000 L | | |
| | | | Exempt ³ | ✓ | | |
| Diesel | | | | | | |
| Location Test Certificate | Above Ground Tank | | Below Ground Tank | | Drums or Containers | |
| | Not required | | Not required | | Not required | |
| Stationary Container Test Certificate | Up to 5,000 L | More than 5,000 L | Any capacity | | Not required | |
| New and Existing Tanks | Exempt | ✓ | ✓ | | | |

¹ ✓ = Test certificate required

² An existing tank is one that was installed and in use before 1 April 2004.
Refer to *Guidance for Storage of Petrol on Farms* at:
www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/publications/pdfs/ER-IS-41-1.pdf

³ The tank must comply with the *Code of Practice for Existing Stationary Container Systems up to 60,000 Litres Capacity* available at:
www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/publications/pdfs/COP13-1.pdf
If the tank does not comply, you may need a compliance plan.
If in doubt, check with a test certifier.

