

Liquid Fertilizer Spill
CHS – Mitchell, SD
Case #16SP102901

On 10-29-2015, at 1:30PM, Bryan Tipton, Program Specialist with the SDDA requested that Sherrie Petersen, AG Inspector, investigate 2700 gallons of 10-34-0, liquid fertilizer, spill that CHS of Mitchell, SD reported at 253rd street and 406th Ave in Davison County.

Information that was received was that 2700 gallons of 10-34-0 was spilled as a result of a bulk tank in the back of a CHS truck cracked open and spilled the product, on to a gravel road and into the east and west ditches, near the intersection of 253rd street and 406 Ave. Clean up was in process when Inspector Petersen arrived on scene.

At 1:45PM, Inspector Petersen met with Dale Wilson, Safety Director, for CHS in Mitchell, SD. After presenting credentials and explaining why Inspector Petersen was there a Notice and Report of Inspection was filled out (attachment# 1) and signed by Dale Wilson. Mr. Wilson then filled out and signed a Voluntary Statement. (Attachment #2)

Mr. Wilson informed Inspector Petersen that at 12:57 pm on 10-29-15. Mr. Wilson received a call from Matthew Morgan, truck driver/applicator for CHS. Mr. Morgan was driving a truck, heading south on 253rd street and 406th Ave, hauling 2700 gallons of 10-34-0, when the poly liquid tank, located in the back of the truck, split open and spilled the 10-34-0, liquid fertilizer, onto the gravel road and into both the east and west ditches. Mr. Morgan then called Jeff Cleveland, Location Manager for CHS. Mr. Cleveland instructed Mr. Morgan to call Mr. Wilson. Mr. Wilson instructed Mr. Morgan to call the Ag center to get a loader out the spill, to get the road and ditches blocked with dirt to stop the flow. Mr. Wilson then proceed to call Gary Perowitz, CHS, Inc. Mr. Perowitz proceed to call the National Response Center and then SD DENR. Mr. Perowitz then called Geo Tek to have them on stand by for clean-up. Davison County Highway Department came out to grade off the road so CHS could come and pick up the contaminated gravel and haul it away. Mr. Wilson then contacted Schoenfelder Construction to have a truck brought out to haul away the contaminated gravel from the road. The contaminated gravel will be hauled away and placed on a plastic tarp located at the CHS location in Mitchell and then tarped for later disposal. A Report of Pesticide or Fertilizer Discharge Use/Disposal was given to Mr. Wilson, to be completed and turned in after the spill has been cleaned up.

At 2:00PM, Inspector Petersen met with Mr. Morgan. After presenting my credentials and explaining why Inspector Petersen was there a Voluntary Statement (Attachment # 3) was filled out and signed by Mr. Morgan. Mr. Morgan informed Inspector Petersen that Mr. Morgan turned onto 406th Ave, when Mr. Morgan heard a cracking sound coming from the back of the truck, Mr. Morgan looked back and he saw the 10-34-0 spilling out of the tank and unto the gravel road. Mr. Morgan set he brakes on the truck and called Mr. Wilson, for further instruction.



The first picture and second pictures were taken facing south showing where the truck stopped on top of the hill, spilling the 10-34-0, down the hill and into the east and west ditches.



The first picture was taken facing north showing the clean-up process in the east ditch. The second picture shows a small tank, collecting the 10-34-0, approximately 300 gallons of product was recovered.



The first two pictures were taken facing south showing the crack in the poly tank where the 10-34-0 leaked out. The third picture was taken facing east, showing the whole truck that was hauling the poly tank in back.



This picture was taken facing north, showing the west ditch.



These two pictures were taken facing north. Showing what is left to clean up on the gravel road.



This picture was taken facing west, showing one of the dirt dikes that were built to contain the spill in the east ditch.

DENR has been contacted case # 2015.226.

County map provided showing the approximate site of the spill. (Attachment #4)

Invoice provided by CHS in Mitchell for the liquid fertilizer. (Attachment #5)

Inspection Findings sheet was filled out and signed by Inspector Petersen (Attachment #6)

For more photos on the case they are located on the N drive.

This completes my initial investigation of the CHS liquid fertilizer spill at this time.

Sherrie Petersen
Ag Inspector
SD Department of Agriculture
October 30, 2015

ATTACHMENT LIST
CHS – MITCHELL, SD

1. Notice and Report of Inspection – Dale Wilson
2. Voluntary Statement – Dale Wilson
3. Voluntary Statement – Matthew Morgan
4. Davison County map
5. Invoice of product – CHS
6. Inspection Findings – Sherrie Petersen