

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR AMMONIUM NITRATE:

1.1. Pre-packaged ammonium nitrate can be stored in closed, covered, dry, ventilated and clean warehouses or outdoors. It must be protected from direct sunlight, atmospheric precipitation, moisture (rain, snow; the bag must not be placed in water and water must not accumulate on the bag).

1.2. Bulk ammonium nitrate may be stored in closed covered dry ventilated and clean warehouses. Bulk storage of ammonium nitrate outdoors is prohibited.

1.3. On-farm bulk ammonium nitrate may be stored in silo towers or closed hoppers in accordance with the requirements of the “Guidance for the storage handling and transportation of solid mineral fertilizers” (2014) published by European Fertilisers Manufacturers Association (Fertilizers Europe).

1.4. Big bags of ammonium nitrate must be stored in an upright position, stacked on pallets without protruding nails, wood screws, wood chips or other sharp objects that could damage the big bag.

1.5. Ammonium nitrate pre-packaged in 500 kg big bags cannot be stacked on top of each other in more than 4 rows when stored in stacks.

1.6. Ammonium nitrate pre-packaged in 600 kg big bags cannot be stacked on top of each other in more than 4 rows when stored in stacks.

1.7. Ammonium nitrate pre-packaged in 1000 kg big bags cannot be stacked on top of each other in more than 2 rows when stored in stacks.

1.8. Ammonium nitrate pre-packaged in 1250 kg big bags cannot be stacked on top of each other in more than 2 rows when stored in stacks.

1.9. It is recommended not to store ammonium nitrate at temperatures above 30°C.

1.10. It is recommended to maintain the temperature of up to 30°C and the relative humidity of up to 50% in warehouses where ammonium nitrate is stored.

1.11. Open heating sources are prohibited in the area of ammonium nitrate storage. Ammonium nitrate must be stored separately from heat sources or flames, protected from flammable substances, reducers, acids, alkalis, sulphur, chlorates, chlorides, chromates, nitrites, permanganates, metal powders (especially zinc), and substances containing copper, nickel, cobalt, zinc or their alloys. Avoid storing the product in hot rooms or in direct sunlight, damaging the product packaging, getting moisture into the product, contamination with incompatible materials (fertilizers and other substances containing elemental sulphur, urea, nitrogen phosphor potassium, nitrogen phosphor and/or nitrogen potassium urea-based fertilizers), lubricants, flammable substances.

1.12. When ammonium nitrate and urea are stored in the same warehouse, their contact must be avoided.

1.13. Smoking is prohibited in the product storage areas.

1.14. A sufficient distance must be maintained between piles of bulk product to prevent contamination of the product with other substances.

1.15. The height of piles of bulk fertilizers or stacks of pre-packaged fertilizers must be such that there is a distance of at least 1 m between them and the ridge, beams and lamp holders. The size of the fertilizer piles depends on the layout of the warehouse; however, they must be stacked in such a way that there is a gap of at least 3 m around them for access with vehicles to organize unloading in the event of emergency.

1.16. The premise where ammonium nitrate is stored must be a single storey building, without any basement or semi-basement. Once a year, the storage room must be emptied of ammonium nitrate and the warehouse floor must be thoroughly cleaned.

1.17. The area of ammonium nitrate storage at the manufacturer and in the port must be inaccessible to any unauthorized personnel. The warnings “Permitted access only”, “No smoking” and other requirements for the safe storage of ammonium nitrate must be posted in clearly visible places in the product storage area.

1.18. In the port, the floor of the building used for the re-packaging of ammonium nitrate must be made of non-combustible material, i.e. concrete, without any bituminous joints and transitions, internal holes, grooves or channels.

1.19. In the absence of more stringent national requirements, a maximum of 1249 t of ammonium nitrate may be stored in a warehouse at the same time. Larger quantities of ammonium nitrate may be stored in facilities that comply with the requirements for hazardous facilities under Directive 2012/18/EU. Storage of ammonium nitrate is allowed from 1250 t up to 5,000 t provided the facility meets the requirements of the lower level according to the qualification quantity of ammonium nitrate stored. Ammonium nitrate can be stored in the amount of 5,000 t or more provided the facility meets the requirements of a higher level according to the qualification quantity of ammonium nitrate stored.

1.20. When pre-packaged ammonium nitrate is stored in open warehouses or sheds, the stack must not exceed 700 t and the stack area must not exceed 300 m². Fire gaps of at least 6 m must be maintained between the stacks. When fertilizers are exported to other countries, the amount of ammonium nitrate allowed to be stored there and the size of piles and stacks must comply with the requirements of that country.

1.21. Economic operators selling, using or storing ammonium nitrate must comply with Regulation (EU) No 98/2013, as amended and supplemented, that requires the reporting of suspicious transactions, significant disappearances and thefts of this substance to the national contact centre of the Member State where the suspicious transaction, disappearance or theft was committed.

1.22. The guaranteed shelf life of ammonium nitrate stored in warehouses, sheds or under a roof is 12 months from the date of manufacture, and 9 months from the date of manufacture when stored outdoors.