
Wisconsin Crop
WCPA
Production Assoc.
MEMBER SERVICE & SUPPORT
AMBASSADOR
Environmental Partners
AGRI BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Ambassadors--2005

- A collaboration between WCPA and DATCP
  - Promotes increased involvement in EP
  - Allows WCPA to directly assist in the financial success of their members
  - Provides, through WCPA, recognition for stewardship above and beyond the rules
- Ambassador Training, August 2005
  - DATCP containment rules
  - Concepts of Environmental Partners

The Ambassador site review

- Ambassador visits site — reviews handling areas with operator
- Primary goal
  - ID bulk rule violations
- Secondary
  - ID good practices
  - Suggest improvements

Ambassador/EPP Participant Facility Review

This review form is used to identify non-rule related / innovative practices that are being used or planned for implementation by participants.

Please complete one Review Form for each of the areas you evaluate. A list of areas that need to be evaluated are provided below. Some facilities may have more than one of a certain area (ex. two liquid pesticide mixing and loading pads) or an area not provided on the list below. In these situations, be sure to provide some method of clearly identifying the area being reviewed.

- Dry Fertilizer Load in
- Dry Fertilizer Load out
- Dry Fertilizer Building
- Dry Fertilizer Blending/Impregnation Pad
- Liquid Fertilizer Mixing and Loading Pad
- Small Container Storage/Recycling/Disposal Area
- Fertilizer Secondary Containment
- Pesticide Secondary Containment
- Pesticide Mixing and Loading Pad
- Anhydrous Ammonia Unload and Load Area
- Dry Fertilizer Railcar Unloading Area
- Liquid Fertilizer Railcar Unloading Area
- Equipment Parking Area
- Overall Site

When assessing an area try to identify both environmentally beneficial practices being employed at that area as well as practices that could be strengthened or modified to reduce the potential for contamination. Explain these in the space provided on each form. Below are some questions for you to consider as you assess each area. Most of these questions relate to both pesticides and fertilizers.

- Can spilled pesticide or fertilizer be easily recovered? Why or why not?
- How is dust managed at the location?
- How are spills cleaned up?
- Is there equipment available to clean up spills?
- How is application equipment, tanks, etc. cleaned?
- What unique practices are used at the site to help keep it clean?
- What happens with cleaning water?
- Are pesticides or fertilizers stored underground?
- How is rainwater handled?
- What training is provided to employees?
- Can handling practices be simplified to reduce chances of release?
- Does topography create precipitation problems (puddles, run-off, etc.)?
- How is sludge and grit handled?
- What incentives are there for employees to keep the facility clean?

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Inexpensive Load In Ideas

Materials and Labor about $50

Control this with an inexpensive wind break

This plywood frame is used to deflect the wind and helps guide fertilizer into conveyor.

Photo courtesy of Central WI Coop, Auburndale

Guide fertilizer into hopper and provide a wind break.

Photo courtesy of Agriland Coop, Ripon

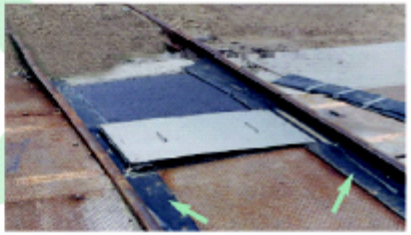

Photo courtesy of Landmark Agronomy Services, Cottage Grove

An old conveyor belt was cut and placed between rail and load in surface. This keeps fertilizer granules out of rail ballast and makes clean up easier.

Photo courtesy of Reabe Spraying Service, Plainfield

An old rubber conveyor belt is used here at the edge of loading pad to prevent wind from blowing spilled product off pad.

Thanks to the companies that provided ideas for this sheet.

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Facility takes action

- Correct any identified rule infractions

- Prepare for EP Assessment with DATCP

The EP Assessment

- After Ambassador review, with DATCP staff.
- Review of all chemical handling areas with operator
- Objectives
  - identify good practices
  - suggest improvements beyond rules, to help keep site clean

Voluntary Process

- Any fixes or improvements are suggested, not required
  - Simple / inexpensive
    - brooms, dust controls, caulking, minor concrete repairs
  - Complicated (costly-engineered solutions)
    - Drainage problems, containment expansions
- Facility chooses improvements they wish to make, sets own schedule

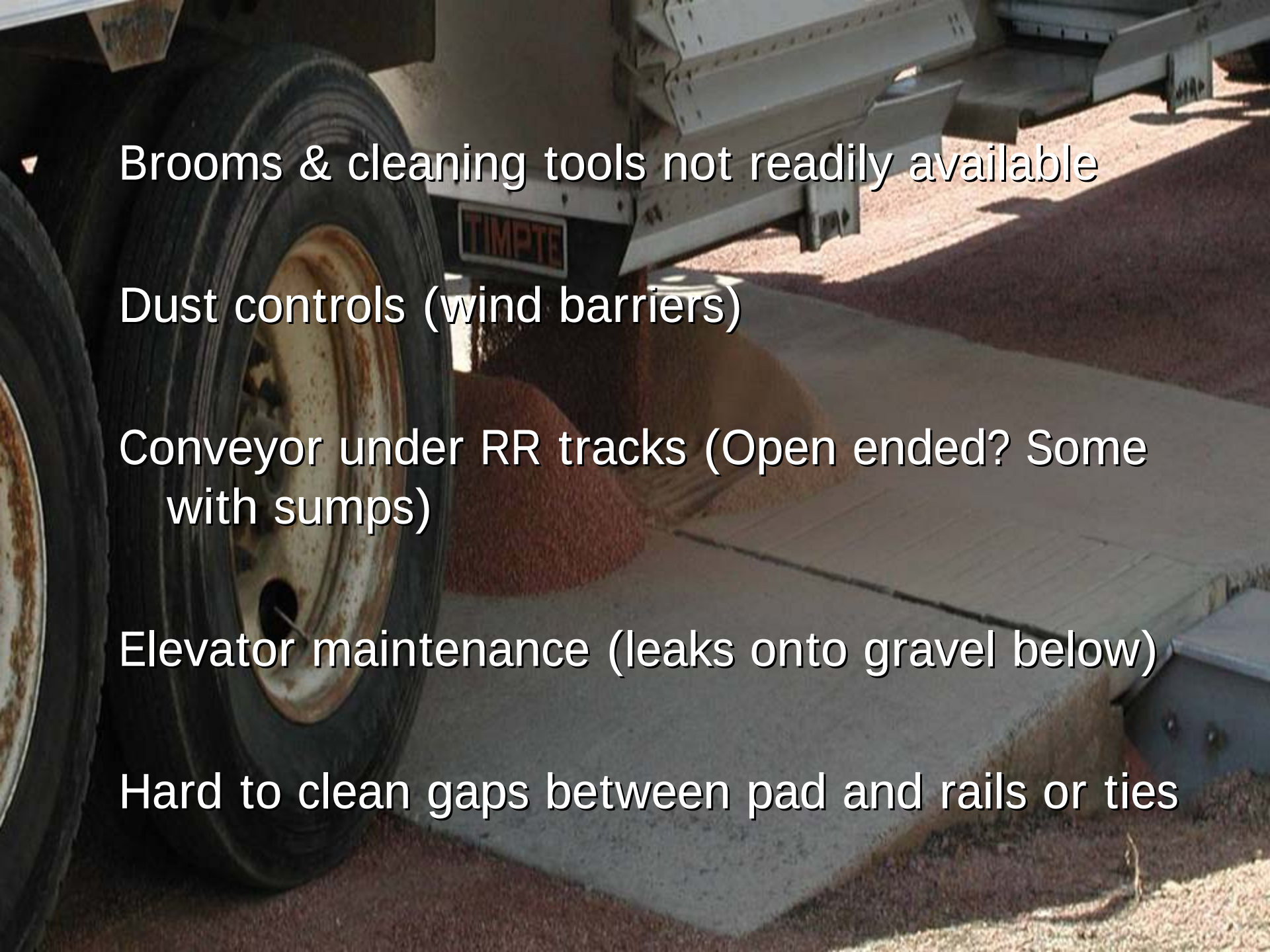

37 sites have volunteered
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED??

Suggested improvements included

- Add gutters-roof drainage issues
- Add downspouts-gutter overflows into SCU
- Add dust control-snout/wind break

Suggested improvements – continued

- Tracking issues (off pads and onto pads)
- Concrete maintenance (cracks & sealants)
- Sump maintenance (testing & repairs)
- Use of drip pans on pads, within SCU



- Brooms & cleaning tools not readily available
- Dust controls (wind barriers)
- Conveyor under RR tracks (Open ended? Some with sumps)
- Elevator maintenance (leaks onto gravel below)
- Hard to clean gaps between pad and rails or ties

Other improvements –

- Fertilizer spreaders not cleaned & parked outside
- Spill response kits not readily available
- Packaged pesticide storage area has floor drain that leads to drain field

Numerous proactive, good practices identified

- Use of N-test strips
- Use of drip pans under valves, pumps, couplers
- Rain water captured, used as makeup water
- Maint. shop floor contained, no drain to SS/environment

- Good use of nozzle holders at liquid bulk load out

Good practices…

- Use of dust controls
- Gutters/downspouts in key areas
- Rubber mats or steel plates for tight fit around rail loading pads
- Large pads (easily swept)
- Asphalt approaches (reduces tracking ONTO pad)

Other proactive items

- Broom stations & cleaning tools devoted to one area, and used
- Bumpers on dry fertilizer loading pads
- Written policies or manuals that emphasize environmental stewardship
- Having outside consultant review site for environmental issues

Proactive items seen…

- Equipment stored inside, or cleaned & covered
- Floor sweepings bagged before dumpster
- Washer & dryer on-site for employee use
- Stormwater planning
  - Using plants to scrub drainage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