

Fact Sheet – Slurry Storage Capacity

From 1 August 2024 you must ensure your slurry storage systems meet the requirements of The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021.

Storage capacity

- You must have sufficient storage capacity to store the slurry produced during the storage period and to comply with the other requirements of the regulations not to spread slurry if there is a significant risk of pollution.
- The store must also have sufficient capacity for any rainwater or washings entering the store during the storage period.

The storage period

- Sufficient storage must be provided:
- 6 months for pig and poultry manure (1 October to 1 April)
- 5 months for all other manure and slurry types (1 October to 1 March)

Calculating the volume of slurry produced during the storage period

- The volume of the manure produced by the animals on the holding must be calculated in accordance with standard figures in Annex 2 of the Welsh Government guidance document.
- There may be little change from the current Silage Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil (SSAFO) requirements depending on the method used to calculate your storage needs, subject to your ability to meet the other requirements of the regulations to not spread when there is a significant risk of pollution.
- The store must also have the capacity to store any rainfall, which enters the store (either directly or indirectly) during the storage period.
- Average rainfall data (1 October to 1 March) is available via the Welsh Government DataMapWales mapping portal based upon the Met Office's 1981 – 2010 averaging period.
- Your storage calculation must be updated to reflect any changes on the holding, such as increased livestock numbers, to ensure you have sufficient storage.

Notice of construction

- If you identify that you need to build a new store, or substantially enlarge or reconstruct an existing store, a minimum of 14 days' notice must be issued to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in writing before construction begins.
- Planning early will provide you with more time to identify if you need to take any action, seek advice and, where necessary, obtain planning permission.

Detailed guidance can be found at gov.wales/land-management