



Environment  
Agency

# Is your farm winter-ready?

Have you done the following to prepare?

Ensured all run-off from contaminated yards is collected and stored to be spread as slurry



Marked and understood where your drains go



Ensured you have 6 months' storage to see you through the winter



Made a contingency plan for extreme wet weather



Fixed and maintained broken gutters and down pipes



Prevented slurry and run-off from leaking out of cattle sheds and farmyards



Completed the AHDB Slurry Wizard to calculate your slurry storage requirement



Planned all applications to meet soil and crop need



## Do you have enough slurry storage?

- The SSAFO Regulations require that you **must** have capacity to store at least 4 months' slurry production, including rainwater that falls on the store or is directed to it.
- If you are in an NVZ, you **must** have at least 5 months' storage for cattle slurry and 6 months storage for pig slurry.
- We would strongly recommend that you size any new slurry store for at least 6 months' storage capacity.
- Use a tool such as the AHDB Slurry Wizard to calculate your storage needs.
- Don't forget to include rainfall that falls on the store, or is directed to it, in your calculation.

## Separate clean and contaminated water

- Rainfall from roofs and clean yard areas should be kept separate from dirty areas such as loafing yards.
- Run-off from dirty yards (yards that animals use) **must** be collected, stored and spread as slurry.

- Consider roofing areas of yard, silage clamps and slurry stores to reduce the amount of contaminated water needing to be collected.
- Repair and maintain gutters and downpipes to prevent clean water falling on dirty yards.

## Have a contingency plan for extreme weather conditions (an event that cannot be reasonably planned for)

- You should consider the following (in this order) if you run out of storage due to extreme weather conditions:
  - Temporary storage at the place of production or use.
  - Storage at a third-party location.
  - Disposal at an AD plant or other effluent-treatment facility.
  - Spreading thinly and widely on low run-off risk land, **only if absolutely necessary** to prevent a store from overtopping.

**You must contact the Environment Agency if you need to spread in this situation.**