



United States Department of Agriculture

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Agricultural Research Service

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USDA, Agricultural Research Service
Corvallis, Oregon
Safety, Health and Environmental Management System
Policy Statement

The USDA-ARS Corvallis Location is committed to protecting human health and the environment, meeting or exceeding Federal, State and Local laws, regulations, codes and guidelines and employing sustainable pollution prevention practices. The location will strive to maximize safety and health considerations and minimize our environmental impacts by:

- A commitment to Safety, Health and Environmental excellence.
- Furnishing employees a safe work place free from hazards.
- Setting up a procedure for responding to employee reports of unsafe and unhealthy working conditions.
- Providing and requiring the use of approved personal protective equipment and safety equipment.
- Inspecting all workplaces by representatives of the employees at least quarterly.
- Assuring that no employee is subject to restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal for exercising his/her rights under the Agency's Safety and Health Program.
- Posting notices of unsafe and unhealthy working conditions found during inspections.
- Promptly abating hazardous conditions. Imminent danger corrections must be made immediately.
- Recording occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses and their causes in an accessible database; and posting annual summaries of injuries and illnesses for a minimum of 30 days.



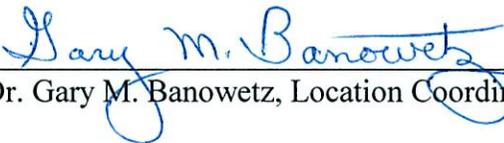
Pacific West Area – Forage Seed and Cereal Research Unit

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- Considering environmental impacts when making policy, planning, purchasing and operating decisions.
- Making personnel aware of their Safety, Health and Environmental roles and responsibilities by providing training and holding employees accountable for their performance and actions, including recognizing them for outstanding performance.
- Developing annual goals, objectives and targets to advance our performance in terms of both regulated and unregulated impacts.
- Continuously improving the location systems and procedures related to Safety, Health and Environmental Management.
- Assessing Safety, Health, and Environmental impacts before starting a new activity or project and, where feasible, implement measures to minimize environmental impacts.
- Managing chemicals and hazardous materials in a manner that protects the environment as well as the health and safety of the work force and the public.
- Minimizing the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste emissions at the source, to the extent that it is economically technically practical.
- Entrusting each manager/supervisor with responsibility for the environmental compliance of his/her area.
- Actively encouraging contractors to follow these guidelines in their work at our facility.
- Clearly documenting and reporting the progress and achievements related to this policy.


Dr. Gary M. Banowetz, Location Coordinator

12-17-2010
Date

