

EMS Operational Control - 05		Priority Chemical Reduction – Lead and Mercury	
A. Significant Environmental Aspect: Priority Chemical Reduction: Lead and Mercury	B. Activity group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laboratory Research Facility Operations 	C. Document Control Code: TIF-OC-05 Revision 0	
		D. Date: 6/1/2007 Effective Date: 6/1/2007	
1. Title: Priority Chemical Reduction – Lead and Mercury			
2. Activities (and corresponding written controls, where applicable): Under EO 13423, Federal agencies are to reduce the quantity of toxic and hazardous chemicals and materials acquired, used, or disposed of by the agency. Mercury and lead are persistent, bioaccumulative, and highly toxic elements that are widely used in many products. Mercury and lead-containing items were once very common in the laboratory and maintenance shop, and some may still be present in our facilities. Employees should know what items may contain lead and mercury and should be aware of the hazards of using these items and dispose of them properly. Water coolers with lead-containing components may be present within USDA facilities. The water coolers should be inventoried, and any water coolers identified as potentially containing lead should be replaced.			
3. Operational Controls such as technological, operational, procedural (and corresponding written controls, where applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EMS committee should inventory water coolers in USDA facilities and check the models against a list of model numbers which are known to have lead-containing components. Any water coolers with suspect model numbers should be requested for replacement. Employees should purchase non-mercury or lead-containing equipment and devices. Employees in Tifton USDA/ARS laboratories should turn in all mercury thermometers. Employees should survey their laboratories and shops for lead-containing items or materials and mercury-containing switches/pressure measuring devices. Any items found should be reported and replaced as part of regular repair and maintenance. 			
4. Maintenance plan (s) for the Operational Controls and actions to be taken if controls fail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact Tom Hendricks, CDSO, at 229-387-2392 for all hazardous waste disposal or recycling. Contact EMS Committee member Laura Marshall at 229-386-3598 for questions concerning Priority Chemical Reduction. Failure of any aspect of this Operational Control will be investigated with corrective action taken immediately. 			
5. Corresponding Environmental Management Program: Priority Chemical Reduction: Lead and Mercury, TIF-EMP-08			
6.1 Record (s) Water Cooler Survey E-mails and other training records		6.2 Person Responsible and Record Location: EMS Coordinator, EMS files EMS Coordinator, EMS files	
7. Responsibilities: (a. to ensure controls are in place; b. to ensure controls keep working; c. to take action when controls fail; d. to create and keep records relative to operational controls).			
7.1 Title		7.2 Responsibility	
EMS Coordinator CDSO Employees		Responsible for a-d (listed above) Proper disposal of lead and mercury-containing items. Identifying lead and mercury-containing items. Contacting CDSO for proper disposal of lead and mercury-containing items.	
8. Competence of operators on the basis of training, education or experience: The operators in this case would be occupants of USDA ARS facilities at the Tifton Location. Verbal instruction on lead and mercury-containing devices should be given by the first line supervisor during the training period of a new occupant. Periodically, the EMS Coordinator or designee will provide training on this Operational Control via PowerPoint Presentation (formal and self guided) and reminder e-mails. The Tifton EMS web site also contains training material and information related to this Operational Control. http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=12538			