

# Silo Hygiene

## Information Sheet

A lot of Arable and Dairy farmers start seeing the bottom of their grain silos around the end of each year so we thought it would be a great idea to give you simple tips on Silo Hygiene. We have over the years witness several cases of insect infestation in grain storage areas and the damage and cost of repair far outweighs the effort in maintaining good silo hygiene practices.



### Hygiene

The first grain harvested is often at the greatest risk of early insect infestation due to contamination:

1. Remove grain residues from empty storages and grain handling equipment, including harvesters, field bins, augers and silos to ensure an uncontaminated start for new-season grain
2. Clean equipment by blowing or hosing residues and dust out and then follow the **treatment instructions** below
3. Clean up around storages, removing weeds and rubbish. Mow around the storage facility and ensure easy access to the storage facility
4. Remove and discard any grain left in hoppers and bags from the grain storage site so it doesn't provide a habitat for pests during the off season.

### Treatments

This should a three step approach as follows:

1. When you have completely emptied and cleaned out your silo we recommend you spray them and all grain handling equipment out using Actellic 50 EC at 200mls in 10 litres of water.
2. Once you have cleaned and sprayed out your silos we suggest you fumigate them out with Actellic smoke generators (great fun). These are used at one smoke generator per 500 cubic metres, as a rule of thumb this means you would use 1 smoke generator for silos (including cone base and roof) between 24 to 240 tonnes. If you would like the formula needed to work out the cubic metres of your silo please [contact us](#).
3. Grain going into the cleaned and fumigated silo should be treated with Actellic Dust at a rate of 200 grams of dust per 1 tonne of grain. Things to monitor when silos are filled Insect pests Grain temperature Grain moisture content.

Warning: Ventilate silos before entering and never enter a silo while it is being emptied. Use fumigants and chemicals carefully and follow the safety instructions on the label.

If you have any other questions please don't hesitate to [contact Pest Go](#)

Contact Information:  
Freephone: 0508 PESTGO  
Website: [www.pestgo.co.nz](http://www.pestgo.co.nz)  
Email: [mail@pestgo.co.nz](mailto:mail@pestgo.co.nz)

**PEST GO**  
'New Zealand's Leading Pest Control Products'