



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division

August 21, 2002

TO: All OR-OSHA

FROM: Marilyn K. Schuster, Manager, Standards & Technical Resources

SUBJECT: Division 4, Agriculture Clarifications

Several recent questions on the Agriculture Standard indicate that clarification is needed to ensure uniformity in its application. The Field Sanitation for Hand Labor Work Standard OAR 437-004-1110(6)(a) requires the employer to provide one toilet facility and one handwashing facility for each 20 employees. Since this is a specification standard there isn't leeway for evaluating the effectiveness of having fewer than the number of specified facilities although that could be part of your analysis of severity and probability rating. A single hand washing facility between two toilets is acceptable if it is the type of unit with dual spigots.

A related question was posed on the distance which decontamination supplies can be located from the mix site. The Worker Protection Standard (40 CFR 170.250(c)(1)) states "For mixing activities, decontamination supplies shall be at the mixing site." It is clearly intended to mean right there for use during the mixing operation. It doesn't mean some distance away or back at the labor housing. It is only for handling activities that the decontamination supplies can be located up to a 1/4 mile away.