



HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2007

Laverton, Australia

Laverton is Nufarm's largest agricultural chemicals manufacturing operation and global head office.

The site

manufactures:-

- chlorine for captive use
- 2,4-D acid, salts and esters
- trifluralin and its formulations
- a large range of aqueous and non-aqueous liquid herbicide formulations
- third party formulations

Safety Performance

We had two unfortunate accidents during the year which resulted in loss of time. One was a tanker driver who slipped while climbing the tanker's ladder to take a sample. He fell and broke his legs. Being a sub-contractor of a trucking company, they and we lost contact with him after a ten day stay in hospital. The other injury involved a person who knelt down to weld the inside of a container, and strained his knee when getting up; he lost one day off work.

Since the last injury, we worked for 556,914 hours free of lost time injury by the end of the year.

During the year, we started working on behavioural safety training by designing and running a course specifically suited to the culture of Nufarm Australia. We trialled the course by inviting people from many of the sites in Australia for a three day course and used their comments to fine-tune it. Subsequently, the course was run in three States, so we now have some 60 people in Nufarm Australia who have attended, with Laverton accounting for about 30 of these.

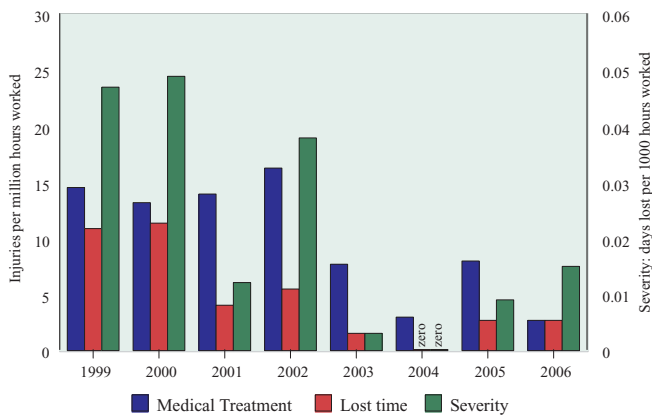


Wastes

By far our biggest tonnage "waste" is salt. This is discharged together with some organic wastes directly to the Werribee sewerage plant. In the past, the salt has not been seen as a major issue, but this is changing with the intention of the State Government to recycle water from the Werribee sewerage plant for agricultural use, and for use on home gardens.

At Laverton we are conscious of the amount of salt we discharge to the system and we have conducted a study to identify the parts of the process that produce salt. We have also identified areas where we can reduce our salt inputs and, in the short term, we are aiming for a reduction of 10% per unit of production over the next 12 months. Longer term we will continue to review available technologies and how they can be practically applied to reducing salt in our operations.

Injury Frequency Rates

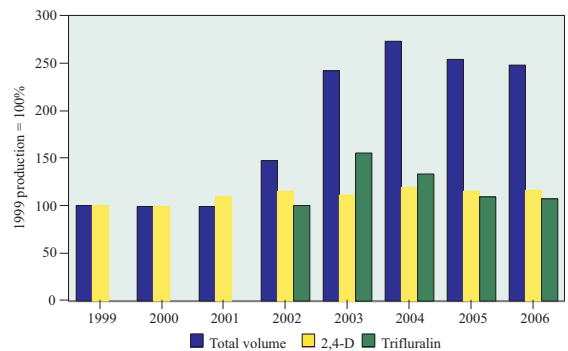


Note: All lost time injuries are also counted as medical treatment injuries

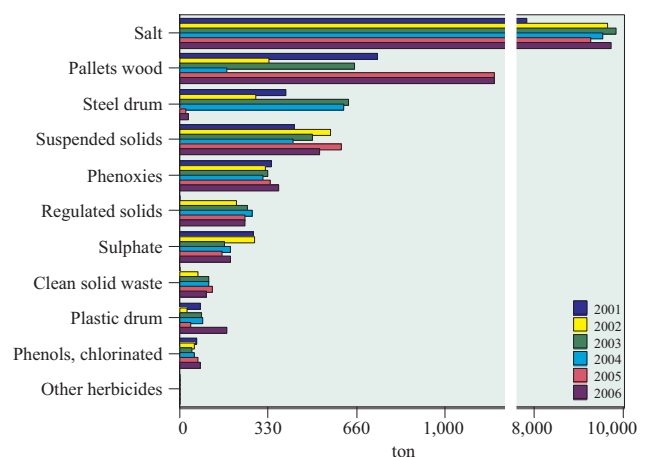
Environment Improvement Plan (EIP)

The second EIP has been completed and reviewed by the EPA and is now in progress. Actions raised within this EIP have transpired following a detailed study conducted by an independent consultant and co-funded by the EPA and City West Water. We have completed many actions from the first EIP, one of which was to refurbish and seal the roof of the settler treatment tank at the trade waste water treatment system to minimise odour emissions. Open drains and the stormwater pit have also been covered in an effort to reduce the number of complaints regarding odour. A full inspection of the treated effluent storage tanks has been conducted to evaluate structural integrity and a plan is being developed to replace their roofs. Other actions have also been successfully completed.

Production Volumes



Types of Waste



Expenditure

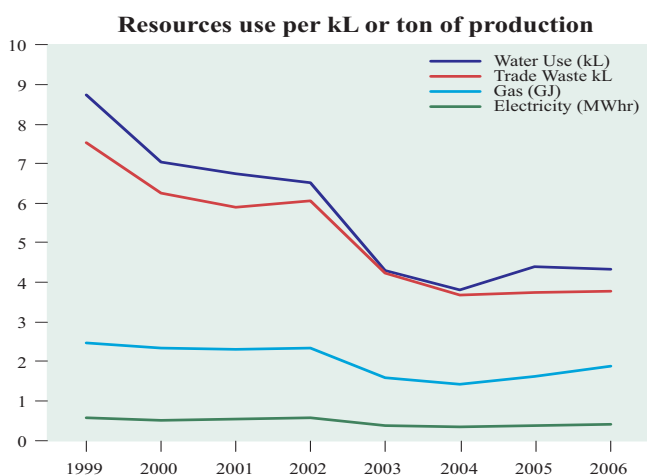
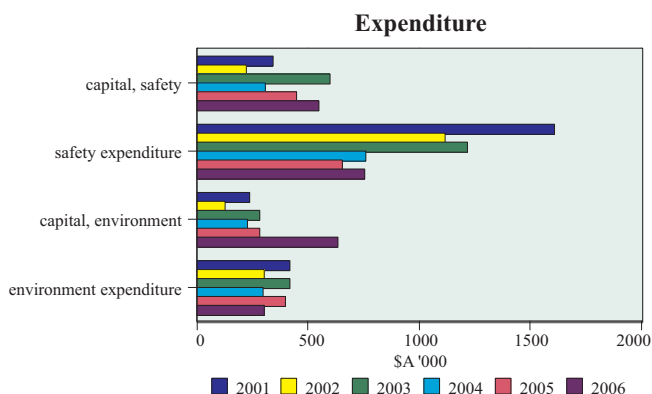
Although there has been no large one off expenditure on safety or environmental items, the capital expenditure on smaller items continues. Training and exposure monitoring programs have been conducted and the focus on forklifts and chemical related incidents continues.

The new warehouse is now fully operational and this has greatly reduced the interface between forklifts and pedestrians and traffic congestion on Pipe Road. A new office and amenities block has also been constructed which includes an area for truck drivers to rest while their vehicles are being loaded.

Two new electric forklifts have been purchased for use in the manufacturing area – these are the first ones of their type on site and they will improve the working environment in enclosed areas. The distillation column reboiler pump and reboiler have again been upgraded in an effort to reduce maintenance requirements which will reduce odour and exposure to chemicals.

New hot boxes are on order to replace inefficient hot baths and some of our surfactants have been changed so that they do not require heating. Both of these initiatives will reduce our energy needs on site.

Changes have also been made to the drum washing machine to improve the working environment for the operators and to reduce water consumption.



Major Hazard Facility

The Laverton site has now completed the review and updating of the Safety Case for the site. The Safety Case was submitted to the Victorian Worksafe Authority on time and a subsequent audit was conducted to verify the details. Preliminary advice has been received that we will be issued with an MHF licence to operate for the next 5 years.

This process has involved a significant investment in time and resources however the end result demonstrates that we have the personnel and systems to operate the site in a safe manner.

Water and Trade Waste

In response to the drought and the current shortage of water in the Melbourne area, the Laverton team have formed a group to review water usage at the site. The “Water Warriors” is made up of 22 interested and enthusiastic employees whose charter is as follows:-

- to reduce water consumption on site,
- to educate employees on how they can save water both at work and home, and to
- develop a culture where our employees are continually looking at ways to reduce water.

The group has set a target of a 10% reduction in water usage and already they are well on the way to achieving this. To date, approximately \$100,000 has been spent on water reduction initiatives and the group is working closely with City West Water to educate our employees.



On the trade waste front, modifications have been made in the 2,4-D plant which have resulted in a 15% reduction in volumes to effluent. This is a major achievement and we continue to work with the local authorities to optimise these improvements.

Despatch Warehouse and Amenities

The new office and amenities area pictured below provides a place for drivers to rest and freshen up while waiting for their trucks to be loaded.



Complaints, Testing

One official complaint was registered with the EPA in 2006, however there were no known problematic operational activities at that time. The EPA investigated the complaint, but could not confirm Nufarm as the source; no further action was taken.

Comprehensive environmental testing was conducted throughout the year with no results reported outside of specifications (100% compliance).

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