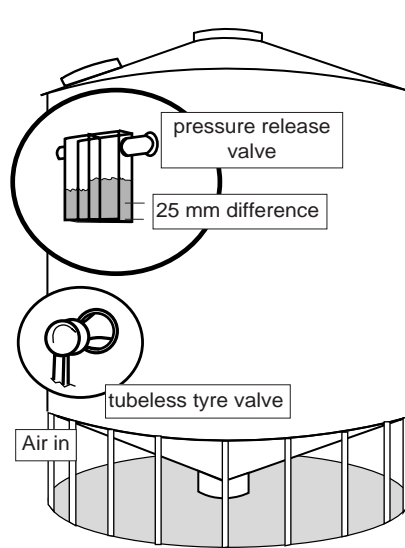




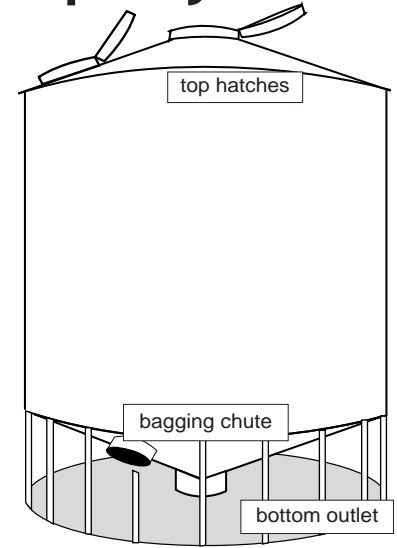
## Effective fumigation needs a properly sealed silo

Take the five steps to effective fumigation



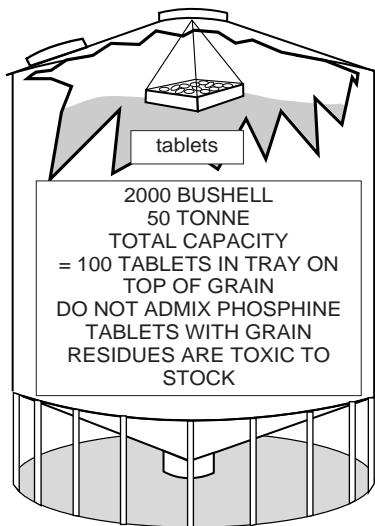
**STEP 1**

**Check the silo for leaks**  
Pressurise with a farm compressor to a 25 mm difference in oil levels. The difference must remain greater than 12mm for at least 3 minutes.



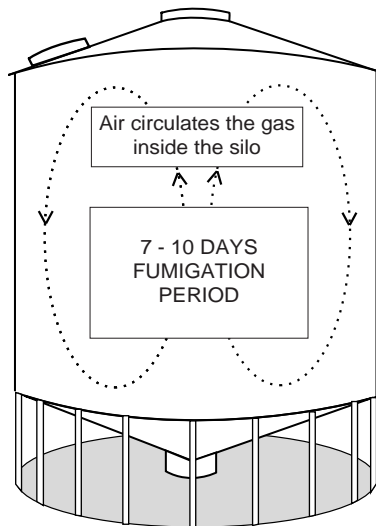
**STEP 2**

**Repair leaks**  
Replace rubber seals on the top hatches and outloading points every two years; sooner if they are damaged. Apply sealant over any leaks in the walls.



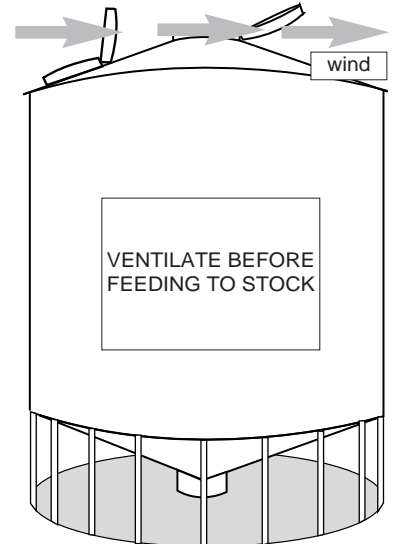
**STEP 3**

**Add tablets to headspace**  
Add two tablets to the silo per tonne of silo capacity (tonnage of wheat) regardless of the amount of grain it holds. For example, 100 tablets are needed in a 50 t silo regardless of whether it contains 10 t or 50 t. Place tablets on a tray in the headspace and tether it to stop residue being lost on outloading.



**STEP 4**

**Wait 7 to 10 days\***  
One to 3 days are needed to liberate all the gas and circulate it to all parts of the silo. Allow minimum of 4 more days to control all stages of the insects. Unless the grain is needed, leave the silo sealed to prevent reinfestation. Check monthly and re-gas if necessary.  
\*7days above 25°C; 10days at 15 to 25°C



**STEP 5**

**Ventilation and withholding period**  
Before using grain for stockfeed ventilate for 7 to 10 days. Before entering a silo that has been fumigated, ventilate for 7 to 10 days. Open top hatch and remove lower seal plates. Check phosphine levels with gas detector tubes.

**Beware: Phosphine is lethal**

For more information on grain storage, see the other Farmnotes in the *Stored Grain Management* series.

**Important Disclaimer**  
The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Agriculture and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

