

Questions To Ask About Poly Tanks

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Plans are being made for another growing season. Perhaps one of those plans involve the purchase of a new poly tank for fertilizer transport, herbicide application, outdoor storage of fertilizer, and for golf course herbicide application. In the Purdue University Extension publication (PPP-77) titled Poly Tanks for Farms and Businesses; it is suggested to ask six questions when purchasing a poly tank.

Price is certainly a factor in deciding which poly tank to purchase; but when comparing tanks, be sure they have the same or very similar specifications. Ask about specific gravity ratings and tank warranties. Consider your intended use of the tank (storage or transport) and the products you will store in it.

Purdue University specialists suggest asking these six questions. What size poly tank do I need to purchase? Large capacity tanks don't have to be filled as often and they can contribute to some efficiency. One disadvantage of large horizontal tanks is the weight they impose on trucks and trailers. Before purchasing a large tank, make sure your vehicle and/or trailer axles, tires, and brakes are capable of handling its filled weight. Small tanks offer different advantages: cost less per tank, their small capacity might exempt you from storage facility requirements, less material is spilled and lost if a release happens, and they can be used on a wider array of truck and trailers.

How will I use the poly tank? Vertical station-

ary tanks are designed for storage at ground level only. Horizontal transport tanks are designed for mounting onto a truck, trailer, or sprayer for mobile operations, but also they can be used for storage on the ground.

What specific gravity rating should I select? Store or transport fertilizers and pesticides in tanks rated at least 1.5 specific gravity. A 1.9 specific gravity tank used and maintained in the same manner as its 1.5 specific gravity counterpart last longer and offers more security and peace of mind to the owner.

What level of service do I expect? Consider these service questions. How important is the warranty? Will the vendor service the tank if service is required under warranty? Does the vendor carry compatible parts (hoses, gaskets, fittings, etc.)? How does installation of fittings by the user affect the warranty?

How much does the poly tank really cost? Consider answers to the previous questions, compare features and services available through various vendors. The lowest-priced tank may not be the best deal.

How does the polyethylene tank compare with other materials used to manufacture tanks? Fiberglass, steel, and stainless steel tanks have strengths and drawbacks. Tanks made from materials other than polyethylene may last longer and are generally more expensive. Tanks eventually fail, no matter what material they are made of. Δ

The logo for AGROTAIN features the brand name in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is set against a background that is green at the top and yellow at the bottom, with a white diagonal line separating the two colors.

Link Directly To: **AGROTAIN**

The logo for APACHE by ET features the word "APACHE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of "APACHE" is a stylized red and white "ET" logo. Below the main text, it says "The #1 mechanical drive sprayer." in a smaller font.

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The logo for syngenta features the brand name in a lowercase, blue, sans-serif font. A small green leaf icon is positioned above the letter 'n'.

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