

# GAS MONITOR USE

**IOWA**

College of Public Health



**GREAT PLAINS**  
Center for Agricultural Health

**Some hazardous gases cannot be sensed at high concentrations.  
Gas monitors can alert when these gases are present.**

## PREPARATION

Bump test monitor two weeks before planned activity & everyday it is used.  
If monitor fails bump test or takes more than 60 seconds to respond:

- Fully calibrate the monitor
- Order a new monitor

Your life depends on the effectiveness of the monitor.

## USE

Gas monitors should be used for:

- **Livestock Production** (manure storage, manure pumping, foaming manure, pressure washing)
- **Grain Bins**

**Check space before entering** by running monitor for one minute per location.

**When wearing monitor, position it close to the face.**

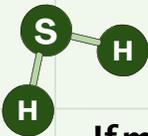
## STORAGE

Store in hibernation case if available.

- This case will extend the life of the monitor.

If a case is not available, **store in an area where measured gases are not present.**

## RESPONSE



### Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S)

**If monitor alarms or reaches 20 ppm:**

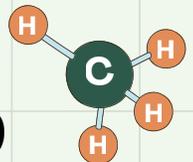
Evacuate the area immediately  
Ventilate  
Pay attention to gas concentration

**2-20 ppm can cause:**

Nausea  
Dizziness  
Headache

**>100 ppm can cause:**

Altered breathing  
Collapse  
Death



### Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) or Lower Explosive Limit (LEL)

**If oxygen levels drop below 21%:**

Monitor is not accurate  
Evacuate the area  
Ventilate

**Sensor is not reliable if O<sub>2</sub> is under 21%.**

**If %LEL reaches 10%:**

Evacuate area immediately  
Ventilate  
Do NOT return until it reaches 0%

**When the LEL reaches 100%, the air is explosive.**