AgriLife Laboratory Safety Inspections –
Common Deficiencies

**ELECTRICAL SAFETY**

- Extension cords used as permanent wiring
- Extension cords/electrical cords cracked, broken insulation, missing ground
- Multiple adapters without GFI/GFCI breaker in use
- Power strips connected in series (daisy chaining)
- Panel access obstructed
- Non-GFI receptacle within 6’ of wet area

**FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY**

- Evacuation/exit route obstructed
- Lab door blocked open

**PHYSICAL HAZARDS**

- Glass items on floor
- Unprotected glassware under vacuum pressure

**SAFE LAB PRACTICES**

- Evidence of eating and drinking in the lab
- Food/drink stored in refrigerator/freezer
- Unsecured or recapped sharps

**CHEMICAL STORAGE**

- Chemicals not being stored according to hazard classification
- Chloroform being stored beyond use/disposal timelines
- Chemicals stored with food or drink
- Flammables stored in domestic refrigerator/freezer or walk-in cooler
- Peroxide forming chemicals being stored beyond use/disposal timelines
- Quantity of flammable liquids exceeds the maximum allowed for lab

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

- Eyewash station/Safety shower access obstructed
- Eyewash station/Safety shower inspection required

**FUME HOOD/BIOLOGICAL SAFETY CABINET**
• BSC certification out of date
• Fume hood certification out of date

**WARNING SIGNS/LABELS**

• Emergency Contact Information not posted
• Missing or deteriorated label on primary container

**WASTE DISPOSAL**

• Uncapped waste
• Improper labeling of hazardous waste (label container as “Hazardous Waste” and list contents)

**INSPECTIONS**

• Fire extinguishers
• Emergency safety showers
• Eyewash stations
• Fume hood
• Biological Safety Cabinets
• Autoclaves
• Ovens/Incubators

**Areas of Concern**

**PHYSICAL HAZARDS**

• Improperly secured compressed gas cylinders
• Tripping hazards present

**SAFE LAB PRACTICES**

• Labels on empty bottles not properly defaced

**CHEMICAL STORAGE**

• Chemicals not accurately labeled
• Chemicals not appropriately dated (date received and date opened)
• Chemicals stored above eye level
• Acetic Acid should be stored with flammables
- Improper accumulation of chemicals

**FUME HOOD/BIOLOGICAL SAFETY CABINET**

- Items stored on fume hood control knobs

**WARNING SIGNS/LABELS**

- Domestic refrigerator/freezer not properly labeled as “Not Safe for Flammable Storage” and/or “Lab Use Only”
- Domestic refrigerator/freezer not properly labeled as “Food Only”
- Microwave not labeled as “Lab Use Only” or “Food Only”