



Contrary to the popular image of fresh air and peaceful surroundings, a farm is not a hazard-free work setting. Every year, thousands of farm workers are injured and hundreds more die in farming accidents. According to the National Safety Council, agriculture is the most hazardous industry in the nation.

Better safety and health practices reduce worker fatalities, injuries, and illnesses as well as associated costs such as workers' compensation insurance premiums, lost production, and medical expenses. A safer and more healthful workplace improves morale and productivity.

Farm Safety Guidelines

Our survey services help put farm safety first.



Types of Accidents



Prevention



Facts/Statistics



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Prevention



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Types of Accidents



Prevention



Facts/Statistics

1 Types of Accidents

There are an estimated 300 deaths and 23,500 injuries to children under age 20 on U.S. Farms and ranches every year.

How children are killed on the farm:

- Grain Augers
- Tractors
- Power Takeoff
- Conveyor Belts
- Other machinery



The majority of farm accidents and fatalities involve the use of machinery. Proper machine guarding and equipment maintenance in accordance with the manufacturers recommendation(s) helps in avoiding accidents. Farm accidents claim as many as 300 children's lives per year.

Work-related accidents most likely to kill:



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1
Tractor roll over | 2
Smothering and asphyxiation | 3
Silos and grain bin equipment |
| 4
Electrocution, livestock | 5
Unfenced manure lagoons | 6
Farm machinery |
| 7
Falls from ladders | 8
Leg and conveyor systems | 9
Drowning in farm ponds |



Types of Accidents



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2 Prevention

Make accident prevention a management as well as a personal goal.

Insulation

Any exposed insulation inside confinement buildings? Type – Polyurethane, Polystyrene, UreaFormaldehyde & Fiberglass and others. Any exposed insulation must be covered due to these following hazards: Flammability, Fire Spread and Smoke development (Toxicity).

Ventilation

Make sure all fans have safety cages in place and all electrical wiring is located in PVC and is permanent with NO extension cord use. Totally enclosed fan motors with shielded ball bearings. Confinement structure features fuel supply – L.P. GAS - NFFA Standard #58.



Confinement and Loss Control

Any heat or smoke detection devices tied to a central alarm system, Lightning rod protection, water supply available, backup power generator automatic start, Tested weekly, service yearly, Manual start with telephone alarm system, PTO generating system with telephone alarm system.

Machinery

Use flashing lights and strobe lights on tractors and larger attached implements while traveling on public roads. Keep a minimum of a 5 pound fire extinguisher in each tractor to help prevent any electrical fires. Install bright SMV (slow moving vehicle) signs on the rear of all operating tractors and implements. Remove old faded SMV signs.

Construction

Overall square feet of complex, Any exposed insulation, Automatic curtains, Fire walls and stops, are they rated for 30 minutes. Types of doors, metal or solid core (1/2) hr rating, Any attached walkways that separate confinement buildings.

Electrical

The main breaker panels must be located in a dry area isolated from the livestock. Outside location – rain tight equipment, protected from the elements., Properly grounded (surge protection on main breaker panels), Globe protection on lights any broken or missing need repaired, Metal outlets or moisture dust & explosion proof fixtures and outlets. There should be NO Romex wiring in livestock confinement buildings. All livestock confinement wiring should be located in PVC conduit with all tight connections in place.

Heating

Heater must be UL listed, keep all combustibles away from the heaters, Safety chains or cables must be attached for open flame brooders in poultry houses, clean and service heaters yearly.

PTO Accidents

Involving PTO stubs stem from clothing caught by an engaged but UNGUARDED (PTO) shaft. Always check to make sure all PTO safety shields are in place. Replace old and damaged PTO safety shields. All grain bin auger motors, belts & pulleys need safety guards installed to prevent injury or death to farm workers.

Tanks

Avoid low areas susceptible to flooding, fire resistive base, store away from other fuels, No portable tanks, LP gas lines must be buried underground to protect fuel lines from damage. Adequate clearances from structures : 500 gallon – or less – 10 ft, 501 – 2000 gallon – 25 ft and 2001 to 3000 gallon LP tanks locate 50 ft.





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Facts/Statistics

3 Facts/Statistics

More facts and figures on farm safety

The National Safety Council ranked Beef cattle farms 2nd and dairy operations 3rd among all farming enterprises in number of injuries per hour of work.

Always wear a safety harness when climbing grain bins, silos and grain complex equipment.

Always secure entry to grain bins and silos. NEVER allow children to play around farm machinery and grain (gravity) wagons due to a possible suffocation loss.

Always check to make sure breaker panel covers are in place, fill in an open slots or any exposed electrical wiring. All spliced wiring must be installed in a proper junction box. All gasoline and diesel fuel tanks must be labeled properly and permanent wiring installed in conduit to protect the wiring.

Always fence manure lagoons with a minimum of a 48 inch high woven wire mesh fence with danger signs posted around the lagoon. Keep all gates shut and locked to prevent entry. Clean out manure lagoons often.

65%

Of farm boys drive tractors by the age of 12.

