

Benefits of Exercising Farm Safety

- Using farm safety procedures reduces the number of on-farm accidents.
- Fewer injuries and fatalities occur for workers and farm families.
- Work related illnesses are reduced.
- Expenses such as workers compensation, medical bills, and lost production are reduced.
- A safer workplace makes for a better environment for all employees.
- Creating a safe work environment boosts morale and encourages workers to stay around (aka company loyalty.)
- Fewer problems increase production and the efficiency of the farm.



Additional Resources

This brochure simply serves to remind growers to revisit their farm safety practices annually. Growers should first check with their State's Department of Labor on how to better integrate safety measures into their operations.

Read below for additional resources:

The Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA) is a not-for-profit organization established to pursue national strategies to create a less-hazardous work environment for American agriculture.

Visit ASCHA for more information:
www.ashca.org

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), under the U.S. Department of Labor, exists to assure safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance.

Visit OSHA for more information

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FARM SAFETY

*FOR FARMERS
BY FARMERS*



25 Massachusetts Ave.,NW
Suite 500B
Washington, DC 20001
202.547.7800

WHEATFOUNDATION.ORG

What is Farm Safety?

Farm safety is recognizing the risks associated with the day to day work on a farm and implementing practices to reduce them.

Despite the beautiful surroundings, agriculture is one of the most dangerous industries in the nation.

Each year thousands of farmers are injured, and hundreds die due to farm related accidents.

Improving farm safety can reduce the number of accidents on the farm and even lead to savings for the grower.

Risk Factors

Farm workers and farm families are in contact with the following risks each day:

- Cold/Heat
- Sun Exposure
- Machinery/Heavy Equipment
- Noise
- Grain Bins
- Silos
- Dust
- Electricity
- Chemicals
- Pesticides
- Slipping or Falling

Additionally, hospitals and emergency services are not usually easily accessible in rural area.

Further, adults 65+ and children 15 or younger are at a higher risk for farm injuries.

Farmers' Suggestions to Improve Safety

1. Prepare for emergencies and amplify your awareness of safety hazards.
2. Research safety standards and take advantage of educational resources.
3. Follow proper maintenance/inspection instructions to prevent accidents.
4. Implement employee training and annual safety meetings.
5. Always wear personal protective equipment (PPE) and make sure your employees do so as well!
6. Keep an eye out for moving vehicles and equipment; consider the road width.
7. Be aware of where gases can form.
8. Use extra care when getting on/off equipment and working on slippery surfaces. Do not wear loose clothing or open-toed shoes. Make sure you have emergency contact numbers and specialized tools in case you fall in a silo/grain bin.
9. Do not exceed weight limits on your grain wagons. Always check tires. Load the wagons evenly to prevent an unstable situation.
10. Regularly check bearings and remove dust as much as possible. Do not unplug anything before it is turned off. Always carry a fire extinguisher.
11. Follow all labels as directed in regards to chemicals and machinery.

ACCORDING TO THE BLS, 574 FARM WORK-RELATED DEATHS OCCURED IN 2018

