

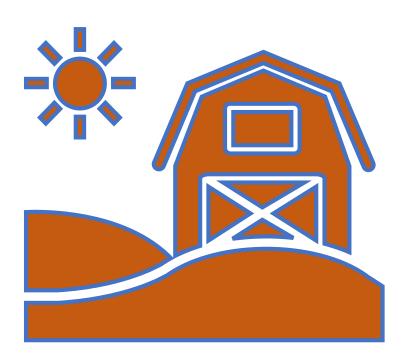
## Integrating Safety and Health into Health Care Practice

**Producers Perspective** 

Carolyn Sheridan RN, BSN, COHC Executive Director, Founder Ag Health and Safety Alliance



## The Power of Ag Producers



- Farmers and farm workers contribute billions of dollars to our economy.
- They have a love of land, community, and heritage.
- Risks are an accepted trait.
- Farmers are self-reliant, stoic and determined to succeed.
- Agriculture includes multi generations.
- Agriculture includes a wide range of types of operations:
  - family-owned farms, large scale farms, workers and ag businesses.



## My Story

- Farmer, Daughter, Wife, Mother, Grandmother
- CNA, EMT
- Registered Nurse
  - Med Surg
  - Obstetrics
  - Dialysis Director
- AgriSafe of Spencer Hospital
  - College Ag Program
  - 4-7 Program
  - Local clinic
  - Farm Safety Day Camps
- National Program
- Ag Health and Safety Alliance
  - Ag Medicine Training
  - Focus on the next generation of Agriculture







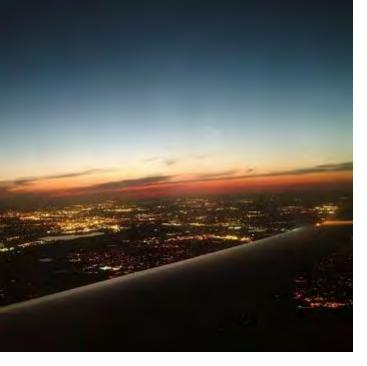








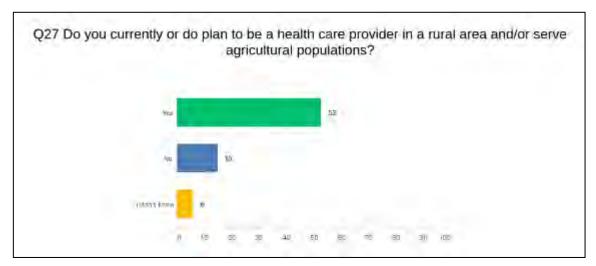






### Rural Versus Urban

- Consider the following:
  - ✓ Location
  - ✓ Population
  - ✓ Occupations
  - ✓ Health Care Providers



Understand what our hazards and exposures are and the risks we are taking to feed the world.

# Health and Safety Issues in Agriculture

- Respiratory exposures
- Zoonotic disease
- Chemicals / Pesticides
- Sun exposures
- Noise
- Stress
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Veterinary pharmaceuticals
- Hazardous equipment
- Acute and chronic trauma
- Grain bins
- Ladders, slips, trips and falls



## Challenges

Challenges for the ag population seeking care from health care providers in rural agricultural communities:

- Few Ag businesses and large Ag operations have identified safety managers
- Health care providers may have limited access to education and training in ag medicine
- Health care providers have limited resources related to agricultural prevention strategies
- Regulations change and we are required to perform our jobs differently.







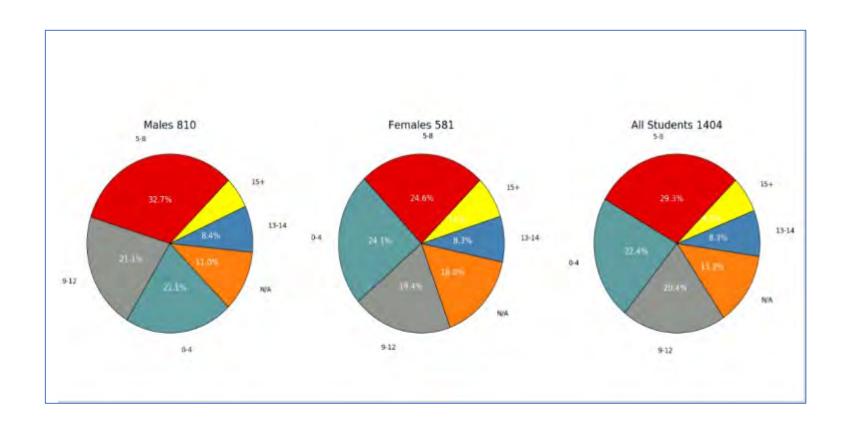


We Need Trained Agricultural Health Care Providers

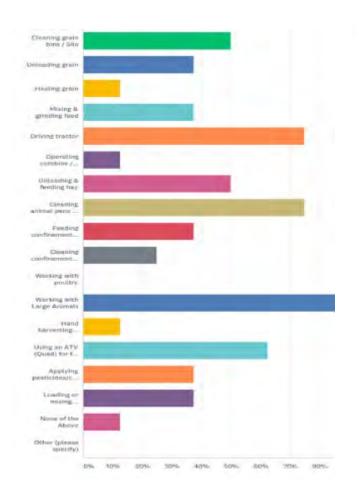
- The health care community has little, if any, training in agricultural occupational health.
- Knowledge of farm exposures, ergonomics, work practices, social/cultural differences, economics, and health care utilization can improve the health of the farming community.

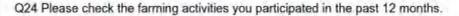


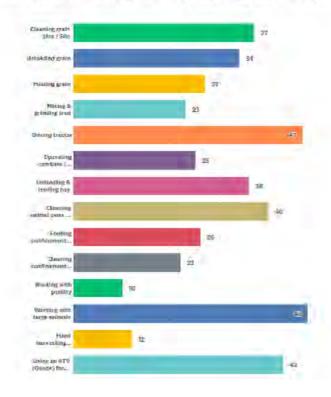
## Q4: How old were you when you first started helping/working on the farm?





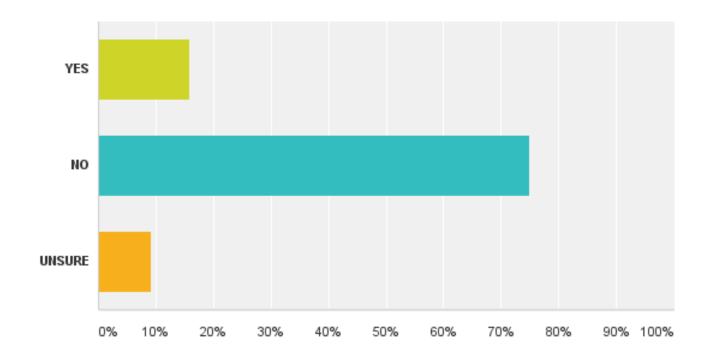






Q5: WHAT ACTIVITIES DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN BEFORE THE AGE OF 14 AND LAST 12 MONTHS?





Has your doctor or other healthcare provider discussed farm-related health or safety injuries or illness with you?



## The Number of females in Agriculture is increasing







### Continuum of life

All stages of life can be impacted when we are living and working in the agricultural workplace which is also our home.











## Continuum of Life

## Extended Families



## **Next Generations**









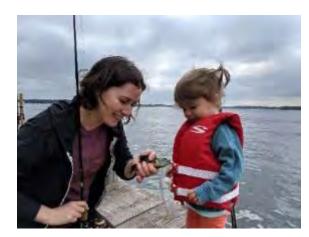




afety



## **PRIORITIES**

















## Ways, we can protect ourselves from hazards in the best-case scenario.





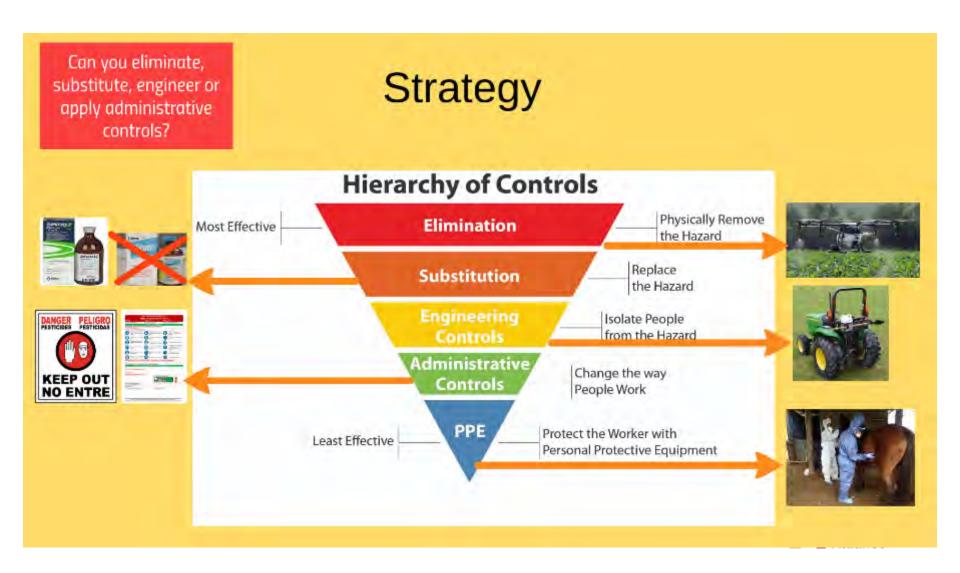


- Situational awareness
- Attention to hazards
- Windows of increased risk (harvest)
- Apply managerial skills to health and safety for overall well being
- Have a plan for external demands while maintaining health.





## Hierarchy of controls – what does that mean to us? Where does PPE fit?



## **Engineering Controls**

Previous survey results from >800 Midwestern young adults in the AHSA Gear Up for Ag™ Program show that 56% have rolled an ATV, yet 76% report allowing extra riders and only 18% report wearing helmets when operating the device





## Use of Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment







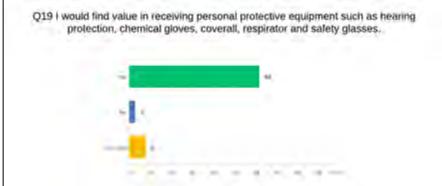


We want Choice and Comfort





### **Prevention Strategies**







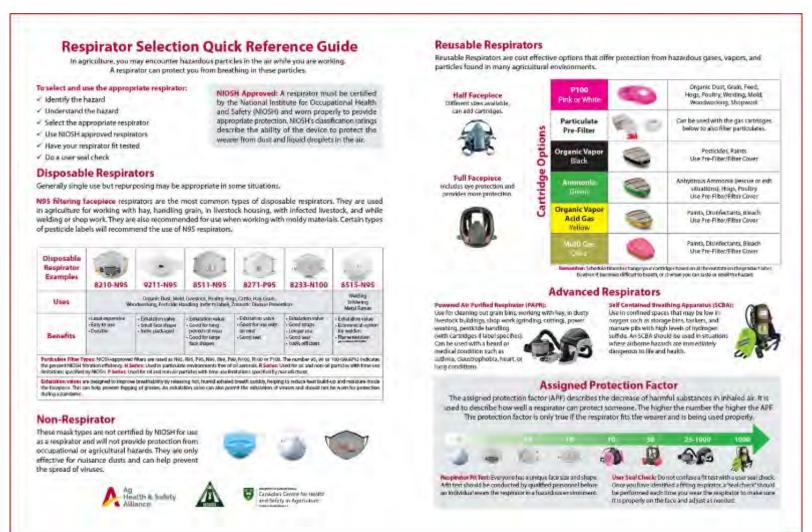


## Appropriate Respiratory Protection

- Understand Respiratory Hazards
- Engineering controls- what is feasible
- Avoid High Risk Exposures <u>if Possible</u>
- Protection how can you help?
  - Understand what is the right mask for the job so you can help us.
  - The right fit for the mask. Be able to do fit testing.
  - Are masks available? Find out where so you can help us find the right respirator.
  - Be able to education us on the care, maintenance and storage of respirators.



#### Have good resources available that are easy to follow.





## Pesticides

Have the ability to help us read the label or MSDS/SDS

Information on Personal Protective Equipment

I am thinking about application rate not the precautionary statement.

Ask me the right questions: Have you been applying pesticides?



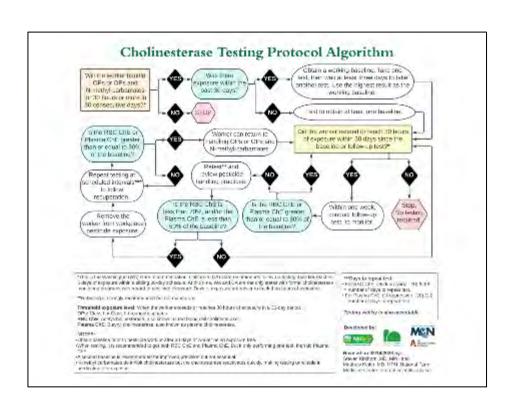




### Understand the Cholinesterase Protocol

Ask me what pesticides I use. Know if I should be tested.

- Whom to Test?
- Testing
- Post Exposure Testing
- Medical Removal
- Level of Return to Handling
- Review of Handling Practices





## Personal Protective Equipment Fit, Education and Sales













## Emerging Issues

#### Avian Influenza

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidelines

#### Avian Influenza Outbreak:

Avian Influenza is a disease caused by a group of viruses that are particularly effective at spreading among birds. Avian Influenza is spread through contact with fecal droppings, saliva, and nasal discharges of infected hirds. More information on avian influenza can be found on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) website.



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the risk to the general public's health from bird flu viruses is low, however, some people may have job related or recreational exposures to birds that put them at higher risk of infection. Anyone exposed to infected poultry should wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

Anyone anticipating contact with infected birds or affected operations should consult the <u>USDA</u> and <u>CDC</u> websites. Sick birds or unusual bird deaths should be reported to State/Federal officials either through the state veterinarian or through LSDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

#### Respiratory Exposures:

Working in affected poultry facilities involves exposures to dust, toxic gases, and disinfecting chemicals, in addition to the avian influenza virus. It is important to select respiratory protection for all of these exposures.

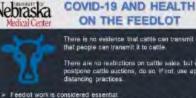
- Avian influenza and particulates (dusts) Appropriate protection for avian influenza and dusts is a NK3SH-approved particulate filtering respirator, Wear a NK3SH-approved particulate filtering respirator that has an N95 or P100 filter, filter cartridge, or filtering facepiece when working in poultry barns and when working with infected poultry and virus-contaminated materials or environments. As shown below, disposable 2-strap filtering facepiece respirators (figure 1), half-face respirators (figures 2 & 5), or full facepiece respirators with P100 filters are suitable (figure 4).
- Hazardous gases and vapors are commonly found in poultry buildings. Ammonia levels may be high during manure and litter removal, building clean-out, and composting of carcasses and litter. Respiratory protection should include ammonia or multi-gas cartridges approved for ammonia (shown In figures 3 and 4).
- Cleaning and disinfecting compounds contain ingredients that can be harmful to breathing. These may include aldehydes, ammonia compounds, acids, alcohols, and other ingredients. Select a combination cartridge that includes both the appropriate gas component (from cleaning compound label) and particulare filters (pink cover shown in figures 3 and 4).



Respiratory Cautions/Warnings continue on the next page....

Updated May 2022

#### Respiratory Protection During the COVID-19 Pandemic Best Practices for the Agricultural Community The COMP for the same as the form has been as of the best state of the great in the control of potential as a market (Mig. Desalts the variet about you for medical subject that is walked will need maginately as declicated many facts in a your sales. See date the following two for assuming year way later instrumy with temples the farrest CONSEINING RESISTRATOR SUPPLIES, GUIDANCE ON REUSE Two Stup Deparable Respirator: Hills, NYSO, P100 (Riteming Facegrade Respirator) a solice but his lare of ferral exceedible, a ery sept to be provide on. This type of respective should only be respect authorities. California Section - A departure recommission be your more than once, but it carries Conducting Course each time you get only required regulation . So, not present as allow the encourage and phodogens, pages, over your All old joining on, having oil an any integrine recoverable on hards. Wath your hards to hard our other objecting or events. - Once there are not their samp other on an interface, become along transfer to difficult to breakly to other a seed one of the delicated. If young the GOVIO Na parameter, many colours to produce the Time Manager and Street Street Street Street Reports Registers Hall Pressures, Pull President and Powerer Air Furtising Suspinators (Textomeric Suspinators . Down and supplies the respirator offer explaints of This base of measures can be present only if the pleased and perhaps a species Serve requirely in a closer, try place harmountains - Bundles stogger training offer any integrate management or one hands. Were your hands before mit older all urbay or re-more a Diverge DSO files with all frames or 18 early with these posterior from 18 files and a startings position to your the POS files with 8 posterior. ting to difficult in breating conductable. Disago sat diago and sleg in real-darkets in commendation Finale is a starting, change the common when you can are like term when you are posturing yourself agricult. to protony the Me of the contrigue, and profitting to destroyee that Cleak and replace reton and total scale or paramition is in seed earning order. Fragmente agree (1985 it month concern a wifely



There is no evidence that cattle can transmit CCVID-19 to people of that people can transmit it to cattle.

There are no readictions on cattle sales, but if it is possible to postpone cattle auctions, do so. If not, use appropriate social

- If you feel sick, you should notify your supervisor, stay at home, and avoid close contact with other people > If you do not have COVID-19, you can interact with the animals as normal. However,
- you should practice good hygiene during these interactions





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Health & Safety

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### Agricultural Occupational Health

- Identification of High-Risk Areas
  - Producer /worker
  - Young adults
  - Women in agriculture
  - Older adults
  - Spouse, children, other family members













### Occupational Health Services

Know the difference between Occupational and Agricultural Health Services

## Agricultural Specific Screening Services

- Occupational History
- Lung Function screening
- Hearing Test
- Skin Cancer Screening
- Back/Spine Lifting Safety Assessment
- Cholinesterase
- Tetanus Immunization

## **General Health Screening Services**

- Height/weight evaluation
- Blood Pressure
- Cholesterol





## Where I seek CARE

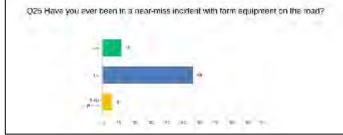
- Family Physicians
  - Nurses
- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Nurse Practitioner
- Hospitals
- Public Health
- Emergency Departments
- Specialists
  - Ear/Nose/ Throat
  - Pulmonologists
  - Audiologists

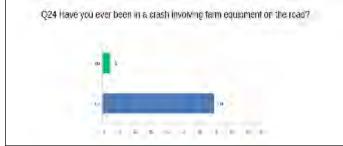
- Chiropractor
- Mental Health
   Services
- Pharmacists
- Social Services
- Occupational Health
- Public Health Nurses
- Veterinarian





## Harvest







### Outcomes

### **Immediate**

- Safety
- Reaction to event (neighbors, family, friends)

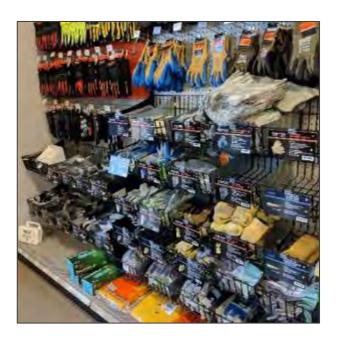
## Short term

- Harvest
- Stress
- Insurance

### Long term

- Financial
- Behavior change
  - Motivators (experience? Incentives?)



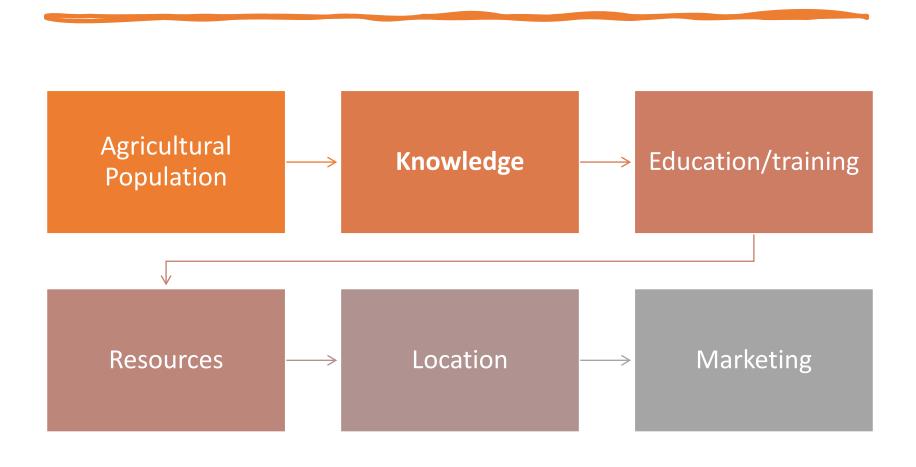


## INTEGRATING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH INTO EXISTING SERVICES What you can do to help us.

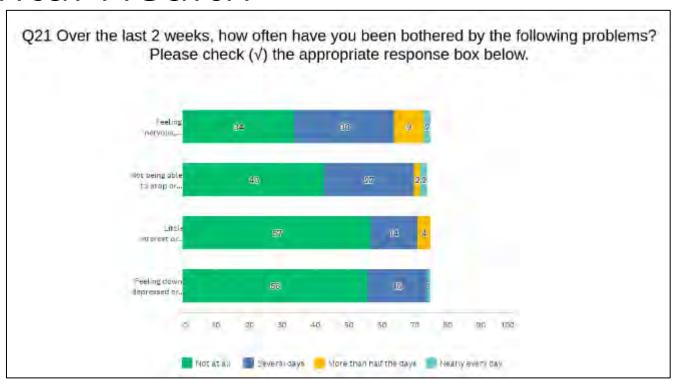
- Provide services that fit the need in your area.
- Include Ag specific questions in exam
- Research what is currently available in PPE
- Review current literature
- Incorporate element of preventive health care into current job
- Be a reliable resource
- Have appropriate products available
- Find ways to ask what they need & want
- Be the expert
- Know what is happening in agriculture
- Learn how to do fit testing

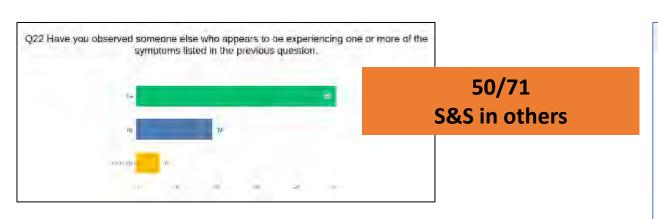


## IMPORTANT STEPS IN DEVELOPING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICES



## Mental Health







## SERVICE LOCATIONS

- Commodity Groups Meetings/conferences
- Pesticide Applicator Training
- Farm Association Meetings/conferences
- Grain Elevators
- County Fairs
- Seed Dealers
- Stockyards
- Machine Dealerships





## Clay County Fair

9 days\$7000 PPE SalesContacts

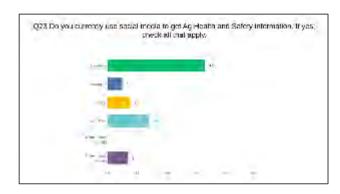




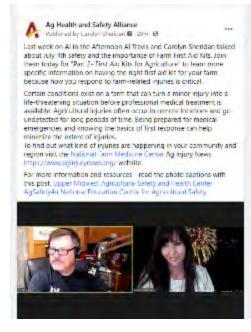


### Health and Safety Messages

- Social Networking
  - Facebook live streaming
  - Instagram
  - Snap Chat
  - Blogs
  - Twitter
- Radio Show
- Internet Newsletters
- Displays in new places
- Online catalogs and ordering
- New Partners









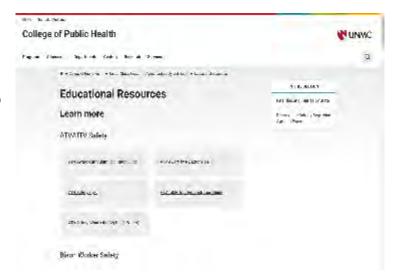








## RESOURCES OPTIONS





Learn about Ag in your region

**Demonstration PPE** 

Find out what PPE is available locally

Set up programs

Be the expert at something (hearing, respiratory, PPE)

Network

Resources

## To Do List



About Our Team >

Programs -

Contact News

#### Resources



The Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) aims to serve agricultural communities by discovering causes of injury and illness, effectively communicating information about prevention, and conducting training opportunities for farmers and ranchers.



101 Ways to Stay Safe on the Farm





**U.S Agricultural Safety** and Health Centers You Tube Channel





The Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health is located in the College of Public Health at the University of Iowa. The Center was founded in 1990 and is a nationally recognized resource with an established record of developing and implementing programs of research, intervention, translation, education, and outreach to prevent occupational injury and illness among agricultural workers and their families.



Hearing Loss Prevention





Sun Exposure and Skin Cancer Prevention





Manure Gas Safety



















### Protection From Hazards

Farming as an Occupation
Not just a Life Style
Work Place is also Home

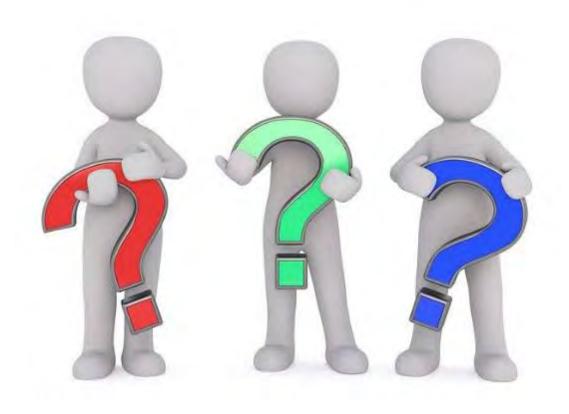














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