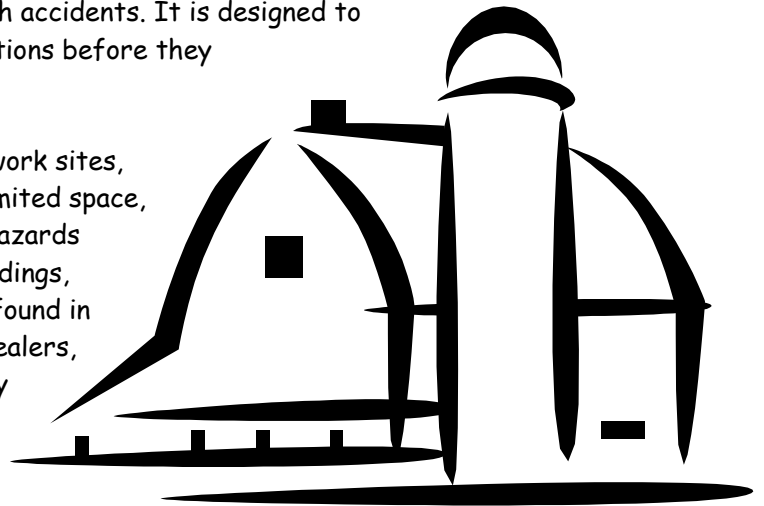


FARM HAZARD CHECKLIST

This hazard checklist can help you control farm and ranch accidents. It is designed to guide you in spotting and correcting safety trouble situations before they cause accidents.

It covers many hazards connected with farm and ranch work sites, equipment, materials and homes. However, because of limited space, this checklist is general and does not attempt to cover hazards connected with highly unique agricultural operations, buildings, machinery or chemicals. Such specialized information is found in product instruction manuals or is available locally from dealers, builders, government agencies, extension services, safety organizations and your local county Farm Bureau.



Familiarity with local, state and federal regulations concerning your operation is also important, especially if you employ people.

GENERAL BUILDING SAFETY CHECKLIST

- Are buildings free of trash, litter and other things that could start or feed a fire or cause falls?
- Have rotten or broken floor boards and defects in concrete floors been repaired?
- Is electrical wiring checked and verified as sound? Are repairs made promptly?
- Are materials and supplies stored so they will not fall on someone nor collapse if a worker climbs on them?
- Is power equipment properly shielded? Are shields in place during equipment operation?
- Are doors and gates to hazardous areas kept closed and secured to keep out children and visitors?
- Are toxic products locked up out of reach of children?
- Are buildings adequately lighted?

ANIMAL FACILITIES

- Are children forbidden to play in or around barns, pens and feedlots?
- Is feeding, grinding and materials handling equipment properly shielded and all shields in place when used?
- Are loading troughs on augers, elevators and conveyors covered with grating?
- Is caution used when working around underground manure storage to avoid breathing poisonous gases?
- Is the manure pit or tank thoroughly ventilated before anyone enters to do maintenance work?
- If the facility's atmosphere cannot be made safe, is a supplied-air or self-contained breathing device used?
- To avoid drownings, are children kept away from stock watering tanks?
- Are heaters checked often for effects that could cause a fire or fill the area with carbon monoxide?
- Are walking surfaces in work areas and passageways kept clear of manure, snow, mud and spilled grain?

GRAIN AND SILAGE STORAGE STRUCTURES

- Do grain bins have both outside and inside permanent ladders? Is a life line used when working inside?
- Can power be locked out so that the unloading mechanism cannot be started when someone is in the bin?
- Is a respirator used when handling dusty or moldy grain, and when cleaning inside a bin?
- Are warnings posted at places where operation could begin automatically and trap a worker unexpectedly?
- Are workers warned to stay out of bins that could be crusted or where the grain flow could start?

SHOP

- Are all stationary power tools properly grounded?
- Are portable power tools either the double insulated or the three-wire grounded types?
- Are portable power tools unplugged when not in use?
- Is a fire extinguisher readily available?
- Is the welding area well ventilated? Are flammable or combustible materials moved safely away when welding?

MACHINERY STORAGE BUILDINGS

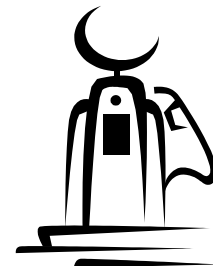
- Is the floor surface firm and level?
- Is machinery parked so there is ample working space between units?
- Is a door or window opened before starting or running an engine inside?
- Are tools and supplies stored neatly?
- Are keys removed from motorized equipment to prevent children or intruders from starting them?

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL STORAGE

- Are chemicals stored in a building, room or cabinet that cannot be entered by children or animals?
- Is the storage place reserved for chemicals only and never for human or animal food or medicine?
- Are chemicals stored in their original containers and leftovers never transferred to food or drink containers?
- Is the chemical storage area well ventilated?

FUEL STORAGE

- Are tanks and pumps for underground tanks located where they will not be struck by vehicles or machinery?
- Is a fire extinguisher readily available?
- Are workers taught safe refueling rules:
 - turn off the engine; if hot, let it cool a little;
 - extinguish smoking materials;
 - remove the gas cap carefully;
 - avoid spills;
 - return the nozzle to its holder?
- Are workers alert for leaks in the LP system and do they refuel with caution?



LADDERS

- Are new ladders chosen for quality construction and matched to kinds of work for which they will be used?
- Are ladders visually inspected before each use and if faulty immediately repaired or replaced?
- Are ladders placed on firm footing so they do not sink in on one side or slip out?
- If the ground is soft, is the ladder placed on a sturdy wooden slab large enough to give ample support?
- Are ladders placed at a four to one angle - the base set one foot out for every four feet up?
- Are tools, paint, etc. well secured to the ladder or adjacent structure?

LANES AND DRIVES

- Have trees been trimmed from along driveways and lanes to avoid interference when machinery is moved?
- Are workers aware of overhead power lines when driving or moving tall equipment?
- Are corners kept clear and crops planted far enough back from the road to avoid blocking vision?

FARM MACHINERY

- Is all farm machinery operated and maintained according to instruction manual recommendations?
- Are shields and guards always in place when machinery is being operated?
- Is the power turned off before adjusting, unclogging or servicing a power-driven machine?
- Are children and non-workers kept off and away from machinery and wagons?
- Are slow-moving vehicle emblems mounted on farm equipment that is transported on public roads?
- Are emblems kept clean and replaced when faded or damaged?
- Is equipment lighting adequate? Does it conform to state law?
- Are lights checked and cleaned before entering public roads?
- Are reflectors kept clean and replaced when damaged?
- Are long rubber gloves and goggles, or gloves, goggles and face masks worn around anhydrous ammonia?
- Are five gallons or more of clean water carried on the ammonia applicator or tractor as well as the nurse tank?
- Is the "first-aid" water easily reached and dispensed?
- Have employees been trained on how to flush the eyes and affected skin areas in case of a mishap?
- Are hitches sturdy and safety chains used when on public roads?
- Are hydraulic couplings from the tractor to implements connected properly and checked for security?
- Are safe operating rules known and observed by everyone?
- Are defective or worn parts repaired or replaced as soon as possible?
- Are towed loads hitched to the drawbar and *never* to the tractor's axle, frame or raised three-point hitch?
- Are tractors equipped with rollover protection? Are safety belts routinely worn?
- Are tractors and machinery equipped with dry chemical fire extinguishers and first aid kits?
- Are protective clothing and equipment appropriate for the chemical worn by sprayer operators and loaders?
- Have sprayer operators been told to change clothes daily and to wash before eating or smoking?
- Are transport wheels or support jacks locked in position before disconnecting hydraulic cylinders?
- Are coupling and hose repairs made so that the hose will hold the maximum load on the hydraulic system?
- Are movable components blocked before repair or adjustment?
- Do personnel avoid releasing stored-energy components such as counter-balance springs while servicing?
- Are tires inspected and properly inflated?
- Are farm wagons in good running order?
- Are wagons used to haul heavy loads equipped with brakes?
- Are wagons properly loaded and kept within their carrying capacity?
- Are hydraulic lines and fittings inspected and immediately repaired if found faulty?
- Is mounted equipment lowered before leaving the tractor?

FIELDS AND WOODLOTS

- Is there a buffer zone (unplanted or grassed) along ditches so tractors or other vehicles won't overturn?
- Are washouts repaired promptly to prevent vehicles from getting stuck?
- Are irrigation pumps and engine drivelines properly shielded?
- Are terraces designed with minimum practical side slopes to reduce overturning hazards?
- Are tractor tippers such as stumps or rocks removed from fields?
- Are holes filled or flagged? Are large immovable obstacles flagged?
- Do farm equipment operators stay off steep slopes?
- Are drivers instructed to cross hillsides at reduced speed and watch for obstacles that may cause an upset?
- Are low tree branches trimmed where machinery is driven?

HOUSE AND YARD

- Are steps and stairs clear of objects? Are they in good repair? Are stair coverings anchored securely?
- Is a sturdy stepladder available for home maintenance chores and a step-stool handy for reaching high shelves?
- Are cleaning products, pesticides and other potentially harmful items stored in special child-proof areas?
- Are deadly poisons locked up? Are they always returned to safe storage immediately after use?
- Are medicines stored in a cabinet that cannot be easily opened by a child?
- Is carpeting securely fastened? Are area or throw rugs fastened or skid proofed?
- Are matches kept out of children's reach?
- Are plenty of ashtrays handy for smokers?
- Are stairways, storage rooms, basement, porches, entrances and outdoor walkways well lighted?
- Are firearms stored where they are inaccessible to children with ammunition in a separate locked place?
- Are electrical appliances used and maintained according to instruction manuals?
- Are defects repaired immediately or a faulty appliance taken out of service?
- Are power cords and extension cords repaired or discarded when worn or frayed?
- Are power cords and extension cords out of traffic areas, and not under rugs or carpets?
- Is the bathtub or shower skid proofed? Are there handholds?
- Is the home equipped with fire extinguishers? Do residents know how to use the extinguishers?
- Is the home equipped with smoke detectors?
- Are the power mower and garden tractor operated and maintained according to the owner's manual?
- Are children and bystanders kept away from the area being mowed?
- Are products such as anti-freeze, auto polishes, oil, etc., stored in cabinets or shelves out of children's reach?
- Are there specific storage places set aside for tools, small appliances, knives, toys and other household items?
- Are steps, porches and walks kept clear of ice, snow and mud?
- Are floor surfaces kept clean and spills wiped up immediately?
- Are extension cords heavy enough to carry the required wattage to the electrical devices they are serving?
- Are unused electric sockets and outlets safeguarded to avoid shock?
- Are electrical appliances placed where they cannot be reached by a bather or fall into the tub?
- Are unneeded combustibles - papers, rags, old clothing, etc.-cleared away to reduce clutter and a fire hazard?
- Is the heating system - furnace or stoves, flues, chimneys, fuel supply-in good operating condition and clean?
- Is the yard cleared of rubbish, dry vegetation, mislaid tools, waste, etc.?




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