



# Tracking the Tragic:

U.S. Ag Injury and Fatality News Clippings

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**Midwest Injury Prevention Alliance Summit  
November 9, 2015**

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# Objectives



- Discuss child ag injury/fatality incidence and injury agents
- Preview news clippings ag injury website
- Explore potential uses of ag injury website
- Discuss incidents from website, including prevention strategies.
- Review safety resources available to help prevent child ag illnesses, injuries and fatalities.

# Why Child Ag Safety?



National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

- Approximately 2.2 million farms in the U.S.
- More than 955,400 youth live on farms  
(Almost half work on farms)
- ~258,800 non-resident youth work on farms
- ~30 million children visit farms each year



About every three days, a child dies in an ag-related incident

- Leading sources:
  - 25% - machinery
  - 17% - motor vehicles
  - 16% - drowning
- Working youth
  - Vehicles and machinery

# What We Know - Injuries



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Every day - ~38 children are injured in an ag-related incident

- Falls
- Animals
- Vehicles

May be underestimated due to under-reporting

- Culture
- No doctor visit
- Not documented as a farm injury



## Nearly 75% of child ag fatalities:

- Run-over as a bystander
- Run-over as an extra rider, fell from tractor
- Drowning

## Hospitalized Injuries

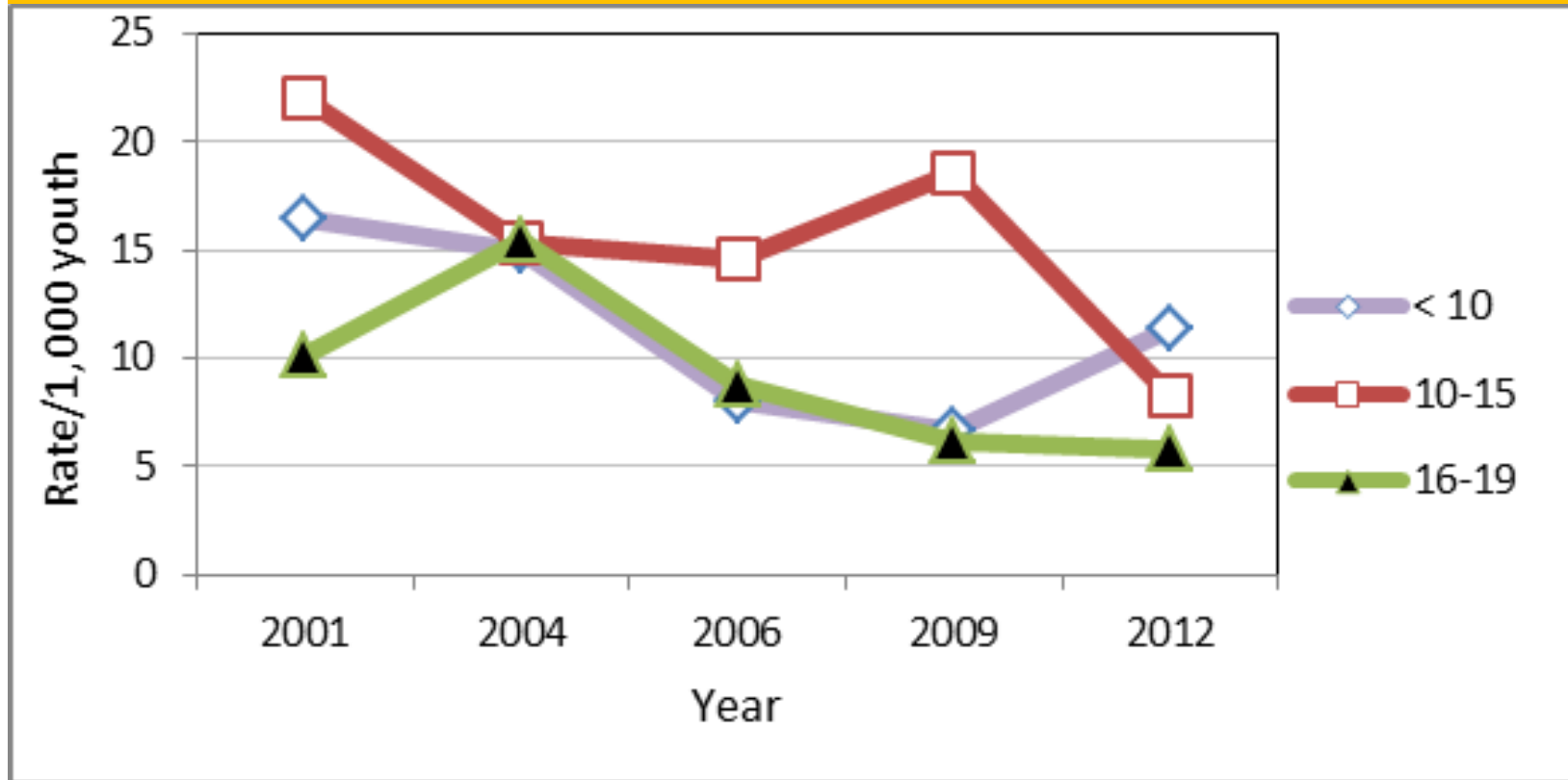
- Fall from heights
- Machinery entanglement
- Animals

# Injury Trends



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## Household Youth Injury by Age



Source: 2014 Childhood Agricultural Injury Fact Sheet:

[http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/proxy/MCRF-Centers-NFMC-NCCRAHS-2014\\_Child\\_Ag\\_Injury\\_FactSheet.1.pdf](http://www3.marshfieldclinic.org/proxy/MCRF-Centers-NFMC-NCCRAHS-2014_Child_Ag_Injury_FactSheet.1.pdf)



## Weaknesses in the data

- No central database for child ag injuries/fatalities
- Few mandatory reporting requirements
- Data “pieced together” from various data sources (disjointed)
- Site of the incident may not be reported as “farm” or “ranch”

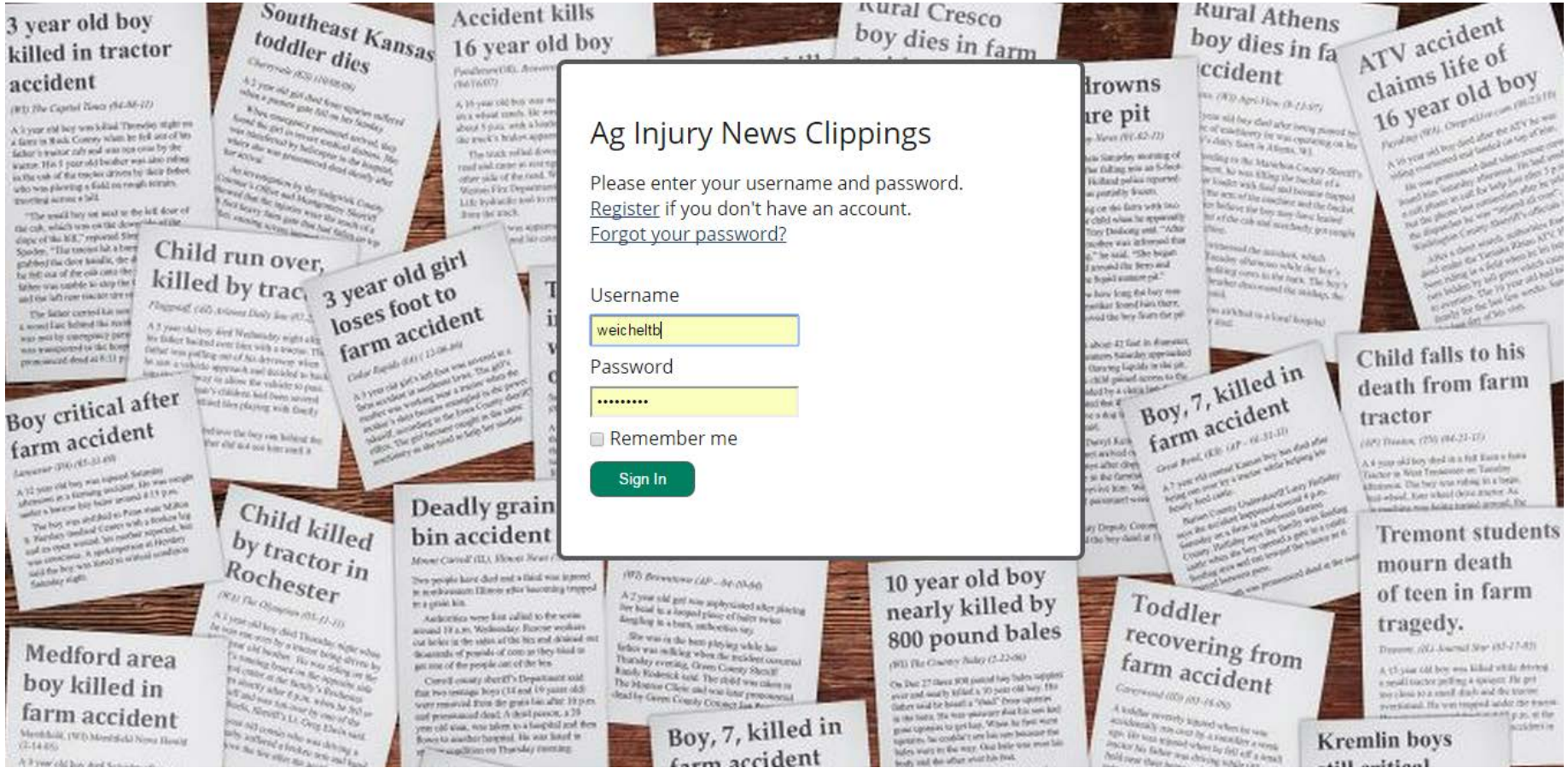


# News Clippings Database

(AgInjuryNews.org)



National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety



## Ag Injury News Clippings

Please enter your username and password.  
[Register](#) if you don't have an account.  
[Forgot your password?](#)

Username

Password

Remember me

# News Clippings Database

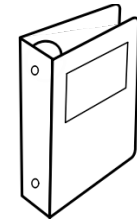
([www.AgInjuryNews.org](http://www.AgInjuryNews.org))



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The database is populated using multiple sources including:

- Colleagues
- Google Alerts
- Meltwater subscription



The multi-colored Google logo.

AgInjuryNews.org contains

- 1485 unique incidents
- ~2000 total articles
- 649 involve children <18
- 468 fatalities involving children

The Meltwater Group logo, consisting of the word "meltwater" in white lowercase letters above the word "group" in a smaller, light blue lowercase font, all set against a dark blue rectangular background.

# News Clippings Database)

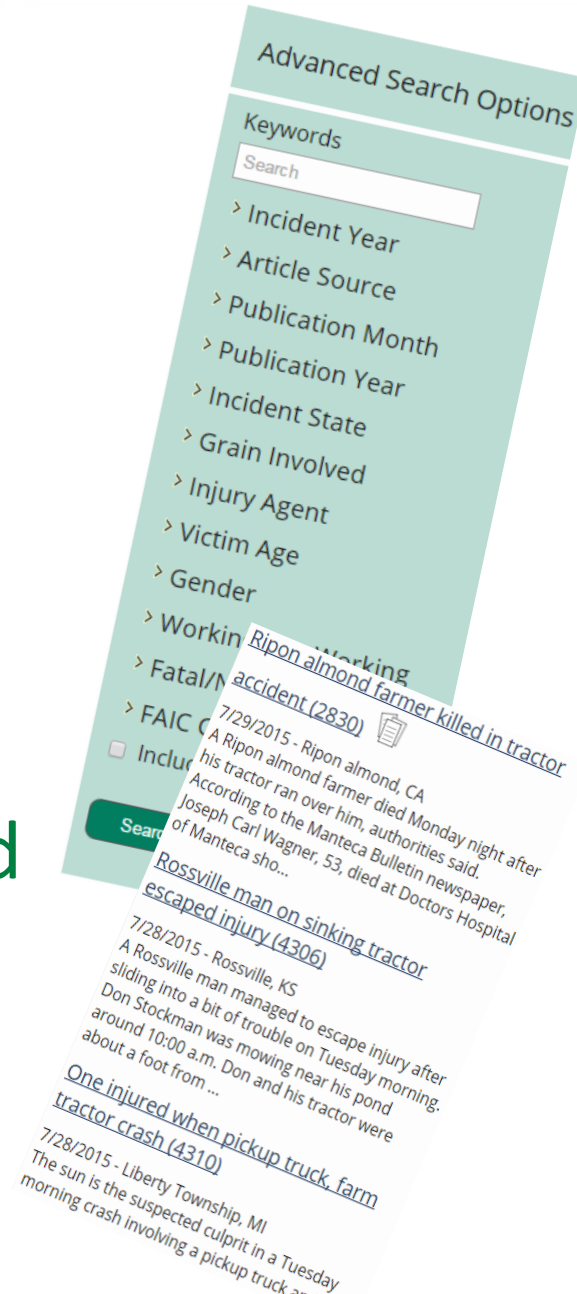


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We wanted to create a website that can:

- Store
- Search
- Report news clippings

It was made clear from the start of this project that this collection would **not** be a comprehensive source of official statistics on injury/fatality events





## What do you see as potential uses for this website?

- Presentations
- Publications
- Research
- Trends
- Media
  - Background info
  - Similar incidents

# Origin of “Myths”



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Farming culture and traditions

Farmers worried about “next generation”

- Anxiety is not unfounded
- Issues related to economics

Digital media & social media



**MYTH:** Children riding on tractors is necessary to get them interested in farming at a young age

**HAZARD:** Tractors are responsible for 41% of the accidental farm deaths of children under 15, yet 4 out of 5 farm children regularly ride tractors with family members.



# Tractor Incidents



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for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

## Filter Options

### Keywords

#### > Incident Year

#### ∨ Injury Agent

- Animal
- ATV/UTV
- Brush hog/mower
- Car/Truck/SUV
- Combine
- Drowning/Suffocation
- Farm Equipment
- Skid Steer
- Structures/Surfaces
- Tractor
- Other

#### > Victim Age

#### > Gender

#### > Fatal/Non-fatal

- Include Related Articles

## Search Results

[Export]

Filtered by Tractor, 0-6 yrs, 7-9 yrs, 10-12 yrs, 13-15 yrs, 16-17 yrs

1 - 10 of 101 results

1 2 3 4 ...

### [Teen recovering at home after lifethreatening \(4363\)](#)

7/13/2015 - Belle Fourche, SD

A Newell teen is at home recovering from a tractor accident nearly claimed his life. At approximately 9:30 a.m. on July 13, Dylan Wilbur, 15, was run over by the tractor he was using to bale hay...

### [Twelve year old injured in Taylor Co., KY tractor accident \(4364\)](#)

7/7/2015 - Taylor County, KY

A 12 year old resident of Joe Kerr Road, Campbellsville, KY, was treated at the scene by Taylor County EMS. He was transported by Air Evac from the scene of an accident to Kosair Children's Hospi...

### [Tragedy strikes Wayne County farm \(2956\)](#)

7/5/2015 - Canadaigua, NY

An accident on a dairy farm in Wayne County early Sunday evening took the life of a 5-year-old boy who was killed after being struck by a tractor that was operated by his mother. The accident too...

### [Teen killed after tractor rolls off bridge into canal \(2913\)](#)

6/24/2015 - St. Helena Parish, LA

Officials with the St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office say a 17-year-old male from Amite was killed after a tractor rolled off of a bridge on top of him. Deputies say Zachary R. Henry was cutting g...



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# Tractor Incident



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- What happened?
- What questions do you have?
- Could this have been prevented?



**MYTH:** It's OK to have children ride on equipment if there is a cab.

**HAZARD:** Cabs can provide a false sense of security, as they do not guarantee the safety of extra riders.





# Cab Incidents



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## Ag Injury News Clippings

### Filter Options

#### Keywords

#### > Incident Year

#### > Injury Agent

- Animal
- ATV/UTV
- Brush hog/mower
- Car/Truck/SUV
- Combine
- Drowning/Suffocation
- Farm Equipment
- Skid Steer
- Structures/Surfaces
- Tractor
- Other

#### > Victim Age

- Not reported

### Search Results

[Export]

Filtered by 'cab', Tractor, 0-6 yrs, 7-9 yrs, 10-12 yrs, 13-15 yrs, 16-17 yrs  
1 - 10 of 14 results

1 2 →

#### [5 People Riding in Tractor Cab When Crash Killed Teen \(245\)](#)

4/23/2014 - Newberry Township, OH

40-year fire department veteran says scene one of worst he's witnessed. Miami County — Sheriff's detectives worked Thursday to learn more about what led an agricultural tractor pulling a trailer t...

#### [Child Dies in Sargent County Farm Accident \(174\)](#)

7/17/2013 - Cayuga, ND

Updated Story 7/18: A North Dakota community is mourning following a farming accident that took the life of a toddler. Valley News Team's Kristi Larson talked to the community Thursday about the ...

#### [7-Year-Old Breaks Foot in Tractor Accident \(321\)](#)

6/6/2013 - Macon County, TN

On June 6, 7-year-old Ty Swindle stepped into the path of a rolling tractor. His foot was run over, and broken in



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- What happened?
- What questions do you have?
- Could this have been prevented?

# Child Ag Safety Network

## (CASN) Campaigns

[www.childagsafety.org](http://www.childagsafety.org)



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**IT'S EASIER TO  
BURY A TRADITION  
THAN A CHILD**

TRACTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 41% OF THE ACCIDENTAL FARM DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER 15, YET 4 OUT OF 5 FARM CHILDREN REGULARLY RIDE TRACTORS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS. WHILE RIDING THE TRACTOR MAY BE A FAMILY TRADITION, IT'S EASIER TO BURY A TRADITION THAN A CHILD.

**KEEP KIDS AWAY FROM TRACTORS**

This message is developed and endorsed by the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network • www.childagsafety.org • © 2008 Winfield Clinic



**YOUR 75 LB. CHILD  
HAS NO CHANCE AGAINST  
YOUR 10,000 LB. TRACTOR**

**KEEP KIDS AWAY FROM TRACTORS**

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**THE TRACTOR IS NOT THE PLACE FOR  
QUALITY TIME.**

SPENDING TIME TOGETHER ON A TRACTOR IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. EVERY YEAR CHILDREN ARE NEEDLESSLY INJURED OR KILLED BECAUSE ADULTS ALLOW THEM ON OR NEAR TRACTORS. GIVE CHILDREN THE QUALITY TIME AND SAFETY THEY DESERVE. A TRACTOR'S WORK IS NOT CHILD'S PLAY.

**KEEP KIDS AWAY FROM TRACTORS**

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**MYTH:** Farm kids are stronger, faster and smarter than urban youth, and are fully capable of performing farm chores typically done by adults.

**HAZARD:** Teens characteristics often affect their ability to perform farm work safely, especially the hazardous work done by adults.







## Teen Characteristics:

- Risk taking attitude
- Cognitively not mature enough
- Reluctant to ask questions
- Drive to prove themselves
- Enthusiasm may outweigh judgement

## Other Factors:

- Laws/regulations
- Lack of experience

# Grain Incident



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Ag Injury News Clippings x

https://www.aginjurynews.org/?k=grain

Apps New Tab Products | Childhoo... https://servicing.cap... Participants | Childh... Evaluation Database Young Workers - Po...

## Ag Injury News Clippings

Submit Article Sign Out Welcome, salzwedm

### Filter Options

#### Keywords

> Incident Year

> Injury Agent

> Victim Age

> Gender

> Fatal/Non-fatal

Include Related Articles

Search

Clear

[Advanced Search]

### Search Results

[Export]

Filtered by 'grain'

1 - 10 of 89 results

1 2 3 4 ... →

#### [Elkton man injured after he gets his leg stuck in a piece of farm equipment \(4348\)](#)

8/11/2015 - Elkton, MD

The farmland on Brick Hill Road in Elkton is used to pickup trucks, not a sea of emergency vehicles. But on Tuesday, Bill Mackie got his leg stuck inside an auger, sustaining serious injuries. "I'...

#### [14 Year Old Amish Girl Killed in Accident on Family Farm \(4369\)](#)

7/21/2015 - Vermontville Township, MI

An Amish community is grieving after a young girl was killed in an accident on her family's farm. It happened in Vermontville Township in Eaton County as the family was collecting bales of hay. "...

#### [Authorities Release the ID of Man Who Died in Grain Bin Accident \(3103\)](#)

6/29/2015 - Thurston County, NE

Thurston County Sheriff says Todd Martin, 53, of rural Emerson was found deceased at 1736 A Ave in Thurston



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# Grain Incident



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for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

- What happened?
- What questions do you have?
- Could this have been prevented?





## Youth/children working (or playing) around grain

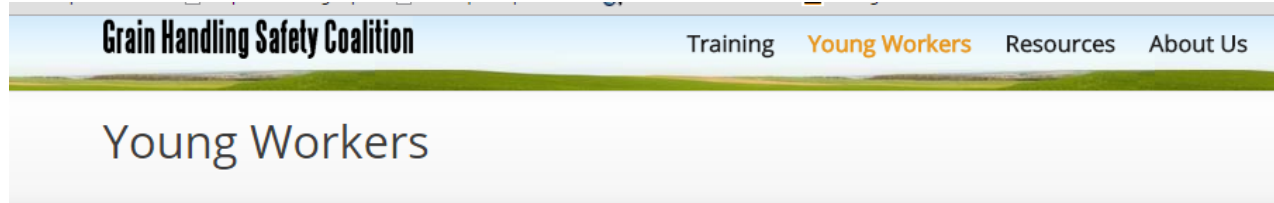
- Hazardous work/environment
  - Even for adults
  - Often deadly for child/youth
- Fatalities
  - Engulfment in grain bins
  - Wagon and cart incidents
  - Augers
- See with both working and non-working youth

# Grain Safety for Youth

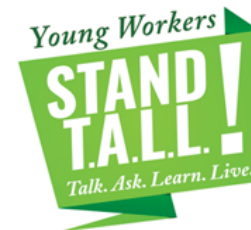


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Visit <http://grainsafety.org/young-workers/>



The Grain Handling Safety Coalition encourages young workers to Stand T.A.L.L. when it comes to their safety and the safety of others in the workplace.



**Position Statement**  
-Youth working with Grain

**Young Worker Training Curriculum**

**Resources**

**Talk** - share information about worker safety with others.

**Ask** - seek assistance & clarification when uncertain from a trusted adult.

**Learn** - how to recognize & avoid workplace hazards.

**Live** - Go home to friends and family Alive & injury free.

# Age-Appropriate Tasks



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## Whatever the job

- make sure work is appropriate for age

### Picking rock

#### Adult responsibilities

##### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Child has safe transport to the field
- Child wears long sleeved shirt, long pants, wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour



#### Can your child do this job?

##### ABILITY

Can the child bend and lift safely? (See "Bending"/"Lifting")

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children must be able to bend and lift correctly to do this job safely.

Is the child going through a growth spurt? For example, is he or she clumsy or frequently changing clothing size?

- Yes. **STOP!** Children in periods of rapid growth become less flexible, increasing the chance of muscle strain and injury to back and joints.
- No.

Do the rocks the child will carry weigh less than 10-18% of his or her body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children lifting more than 15% of their body weight are more likely to injure their backs.

Does the child have to carry the rocks

Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his or her field of vision at shoulder level?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children with limited vision may not see people or obstacles in the work area.

Does the child have at least a 15-20 minute attention span? For example, can the child play a board game for 20 minutes?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children working beyond their attention span are easily distracted and more likely to be injured.

Does the child do things that seem dangerous for the thrill of it?

- Yes. **CAUTION!** Children who take risks or behave dangerously are more likely to be injured.
- No.

Does the child usually go with his or her

Rem

## Tractor operation chart

CHILDREN SHOULD ONLY OPERATE WIDE-FRONT TRACTORS EQUIPPED WITH ROPS AND SEATBELTS. An adult should ensure that the child can reach all controls while



wearing a seatbelt, that a pre-operations service check has been completed, and that no extra riders are allowed on the tractor. This guideline assumes that the child will be operating the tractor in day-light, under dry conditions, while not on a steep slope and with reasonable distance from ditches, trees and fences.



Refer to the specific guideline for recommended supervision

#### Size of tractor

|  | LAWN & GARDEN<br>less than 20hp | SMALL<br>20hp to 70hp | MEDIUM/LARGE<br>more than 70hp | ARTICULATED |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>OPERATING A FARM TRACTOR</b><br>(no equipment attached) | 14- 15 years                    | 14- 15 years          | 14-15 years                    | 16+ years   |
| <b>TRAILED IMPLEMENTS</b><br>fieldwork                     | 14- 15 years                    | 14- 15 years          | 14-15 years                    | 16+ years   |
| <b>3-POINT IMPLEMENTS</b><br>fieldwork                     | 14- 15 years                    | 14-15 years           | 14-15 years                    | 16+ years   |
| <b>REMOTE HYDRAULICS</b><br>fieldwork                      | 14-15 years                     | 14-15 years           | 14-15 years                    | 16+ years   |
| <b>PTO-POWERED IMPLEMENTS</b><br>fieldwork                 | 14-15 years                     | 14-15 years           | 14-15 years                    | 16+ years   |
| <b>TRACTOR-MOUNTED<br/>FRONT-END LOADER</b>                | 14-15 years                     | 16+ years             | 16+ years                      | 16+ years   |
| <b>WORKING IN AN ORCHARD</b>                               | 14-15 years                     | 16+ years             | 16+ years                      | 16+ years   |
| <b>WORKING INSIDE BUILDINGS</b>                            | 14-15 years                     | 16+ years             | 16+ years                      | 16+ years   |
| <b>DRIVING ON PUBLIC ROADS *</b>                           | N/A                             | 16+ years             | 16+ years                      | 16+ years   |

Increased complexity of job

#### Main Hazards



Uneven surface can lead to trips and falls



Weights of rocks

# ATV Incidents



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Ag Injury News Clippings

https://www.aginjurynews.org/?g0=72%2C1&f0=73&g1=118%2C1&f1=94%2C95%2C96%2C97%2C98

Submit Article Sign Out Welcome, salzwdm

## Ag Injury News Clippings

Filter Options

Keywords

Search

> Incident Year

> Injury Agent

- Animal
- ATV/UTV
- Brush hog/mower
- Car/Truck/SUV
- Combine
- Drowning/Suffocation
- Farm Equipment
- Skid Steer
- Structures/Surfaces
- Tractor
- Other

> Victim Age

- Not reported

## Search Results

[Export]

Filtered by ATV/UTV, 0-6 yrs, 7-9 yrs, 10-12 yrs, 13-15 yrs, 16-17 yrs

1 - 10 of 62 results

1 2 3 4 ... →

[Boy killed in Tremonton ATV accident \(4173\)](#)

7/16/2015 - Tremonton, UT  
A 9-year-old boy was killed in an ATV accident Thursday. The boy, whose name was not released Friday, was riding on his grandfather's Tremonton ranch near 5900 West and 10400 North about 11:15 a.m...

[Authorities: La Motte teen injured when ATV crashes into ditch \(4229\)](#)

7/10/2015 - Bellevue, IA  
Authorities say a La Motte teen riding an all-terrain vehicle suffered a concussion after he crashed into a ditch Friday night. Zachary Beckley, 17, was driving his ATV in a pasture at 19007 328th...

[Preteen Dies After ATV Accident \(4189\)](#)

7/8/2015 - Nokomis, IL  
A 12-year-old from the Chicago area has died after an ATV crash here in central Illinois. It happened Saturday near the city of Nokomis in Montgomery County. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

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# ATV Incident



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- What happened?
- What questions do you have?
- Could this have been prevented?



# ATV Safety

(CASN) Campaign:  
[www.childsafety.org](http://www.childsafety.org)



National Children's Center  
 for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

NAGCAT: [www.nagcat.org](http://www.nagcat.org)

## Farmwork with an ATV

### Adult responsibilities

#### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- All safety features are in place
- Engine size is appropriate for child
- ATV is in good working order
- Child does not operate ATV after dark or in bad weather
- Child does NOT operate three-wheeled ATV
- Work area has no hazards
- Child knows safe route to work site
- Child can communicate with adult by cellular phone, walkie-talkie or other method
- Child wears DOT approved (or equivalent) helmet with eye protection
- Child wears long sleeved shirt and long pants



### Can your child do this job?

#### ABILITY

Can the child reach and operate all controls while comfortably seated?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Children who can't reach the controls are more likely to be injured.

Is the child strong enough to operate the controls without straining?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Straining to operate the controls could cause injury.

Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his or her field of vision at shoulder level?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Children with limited vision may not see people or obstacles in the work area.

Can the child use hands and feet at the same time? For example, can the child run and dribble a basketball?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Children who lack coordination may not be able to safely drive an ATV.

Can the child understand and repeat farmwork instructions?

Can the child react quickly?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Children need quick reactions to avoid injury.

Does the child do things that seem dangerous for the thrill of it?

- Yes. **STOP!** Children who take risks or behave dangerously are more likely to be injured  
 No.

Is your child responsible? Do you trust your child to do what's expected without anyone checking?

- Yes.  
 No. **STOP!** Irresponsible behavior can lead to injury.

Does the child usually go with his or her "gut" feeling without thinking too much about what could happen next?

- Yes. **STOP!** Children who act on impulse are more likely to be injured.  
 No.

#### TRAINING

Has an adult demonstrated farmwork

http://www.nagcat.org

### Main Hazards



ATV overturns can cause death or disability



**I didn't KNOW...**

...ATVs roll over easily  
 ...ATVs are not meant for passengers  
 ...ATVs can weigh up to 800 lbs.

In the U.S. about 40,000 children under the age of 16 are treated in emergency departments for ATV-related injuries each year.

ATV riding is not child's play.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children under 16 years of age NOT operate ATVs.

For more information contact:  
 Childhood Agricultural Safety Network at 1-800-662-6900 or visit [www.childsafety.org](http://www.childsafety.org)

### Remember



Approved helmet with eye protection



# Agritourism Incidents



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Ag Injury News Clippings x

https://www.aginjurynews.org/?a=1&k=hayride&g0=118%2C1&f0=94%2C95%2C96%2C97%2C98%2C99

Submit Article Sign Out Welcome, salzwe

## Ag Injury News Clippings

### Filter Options

#### Keywords

- > Incident Year
- > Article Source
- > Publication Month
- > Publication Year
- > Incident State
- > Grain Involved
- > Injury Agent
- > Victim Age
  - Not reported
  - 0-6 yrs
  - 7-9 yrs
  - 10-12 yrs
  - 13-15 yrs
  - 16-17 yrs
  - 18 yrs and older
- > Gender
- > Working/Not Working
- > Fatal/Non-fatal

### Search Results

[Export]

Filtered by 'hayride', 0-6 yrs, 7-9 yrs, 10-12 yrs, 13-15 yrs, 16-17 yrs, 18 yrs and older

1 - 10 of 13 results

1 2 →

#### [12 injured as vehicle rear-ends hayride trailer \(2707\)](#)

10/31/2014 - Walker, LA

A dozen people were injured Friday in a wreck during a Halloween hayride. Louisiana State Police a Mazda CX-6 SUV ran into the back of a trailer being used in the hayride along LA 1024 in Livingst...

#### [1 DEAD, 22 INJURED WHEN MAINE HAYRIDE FLIPS \(2689\)](#)

10/11/2014 - Mechanic Falls, ME

A Halloween-themed hay ride careened down a hill in the Maine woods and crashed into a tree, fatally injuring a teenage girl and leaving more than 20 other people hurt, police said Sunday. A 17-ye...

#### [Hayride accident \(2666\)](#)

10/11/2013 - DeKalb County, AL

Last night around 7:15 a man driving down county road 568 in DeKalb County hit a hayride carrying 20 teens. Five were sent to the hospital and one 13 year old girl was airlifted to UAB Hospital. A...

#### [Fatal Hayride Accident \(4329\)](#)

10/20/2012 - Carlinville, IL

A 26-year-old Carinville man is dead following what the Calhoun County Sheriff is calling a freak accident during a hay ride. Sheriff bill Heffington says Matthew W. Weyen of the 17,900 block of Rid...

#### [Role player airlifted after freak haunted havride accident \(2727\)](#)



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# Hayride Incident



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- What happened?
- What questions do you have?
- Could this have been prevented?



# Agritourism



## Increasing number of agritourism operations

- 42% increase from 2007-2012\*

## Hazards

- More activities add more hazards
- Visitors unfamiliar with farms
- More people visiting
- Added distractions

## Safety Resources

[www.safeagritourism.com](http://www.safeagritourism.com)



\*Source: 2012 USDA Census of Agriculture

# Resources & Materials



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## cultivate SAFETY

PARENT FIRST. FARMER SECOND.

Home Prevention Age Work Guidelines Play Accidents About Us

YouTube Facebook

Cultivatesafety.org



### Monthly Quiz

What is the most important feature of a safe play area on a farm?

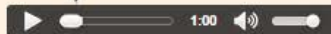
- play item
- fence
- garden

Check out the "Play" tab to find out.

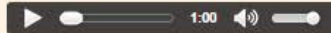
### Plambeck Award



Cultivate Safety radio ads win the Plambeck Award!



Download



Download

### Video

Child Development 101

Can I...

## Hand-harvesting vegetables

### Adult responsibilities

- Children must never be left alone.
- All farm work is hazardous.
- All farm work is supervised.
- All farm work is age appropriate.
- All farm work is safe.
- All farm work is done in a safe manner.
- All farm work is done in a safe manner.
- All farm work is done in a safe manner.

## Community-Based Agriculture: Safety Guidelines for Youth Working in Gardens

Main Hazards

- Sun
- Insects
- Chemicals
- Tools
- Machinery
- Animals
- Water
- Plants
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- Irrigation
- Structures
- Vehicles
- Power Lines
- Weather
- Other

Sup

SAFETY ad on the go. Scan the QR code to watch more content.

North American Children's Agricultural Center

Safety Guidelines  
Hand Harvesting from Workers

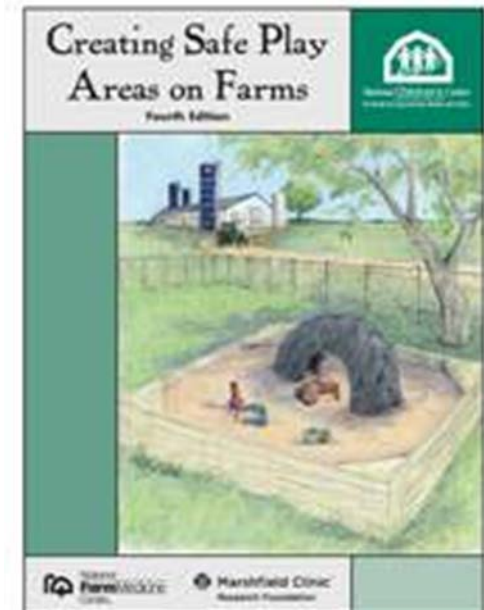


## Talked about children

- Working on farms (driving tractors, grain, working with ATVs, etc.)
- Visiting farms (agritourism)

## What about children living on farms?

- Child care
- Safe Play areas





Children live, work and visit farms/ranches

&

There are lots of hazards

**We need to all work together to help  
keep them safe!**



# Questions?

# Thank you!



National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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