Child Safety on the Farm & Ranch

AgrAbility National Training Workshop
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Objective #1

Session participants will learn how children of different ages and stages of development can be at risk on the farm/ranch.
Objective #2

Participants will discuss ways to educate and encourage families to become more intentional about safety, identify dangerous situations and prevent injury to children.
The situation – children on farms & ranches

• Who makes up this segment of the population?
The situation – children on farms & ranches

- **Who makes up this segment of the population?**
  - Offspring of farmers, ranchers and employees
    (children, grand children, relatives)
The situation – children on farms & ranches

• **Who makes up this segment of the population?**
  – Offspring of farmers, ranchers and employees (children, grand children, relatives)
  – Neighbors
The situation – children on farms & ranches

• Who makes up this segment of the population?
  – Offspring of farmers, ranchers and employees (children, grand children, relatives)
  – Neighbors
  – Visitors: customers, school groups, others,
    • Consider agritourism enterprises
Youth Statistics - Fatalities

• On average, every 3 days a child dies in an agriculture-related incident
  – The leading causes are
    • machinery (25%)
    • motor vehicles/ATVs (17%) and
    • drowning (16%).

Source: the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS)
Youth Statistics - Injuries

• Each day, 33 children are injured on farms
  – In 2014, an estimated 7,469 youth were injured on a farm and 60% of them were not working when the injury occurred.
  – Approximately 3,735 visiting youth were injured on farms in 2014.
  – Vehicles were the leading source of injury for household working youth.
  – Animals were the leading source of injury for both household non-working youth and visitors.

Source: the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS)
The Developing Child

- Brain & Psyche
  - Inquisitiveness
  - Wanting to be like mom & dad (or big brother/big sister)
  - May be unaware of dangers and potential hazards

- Physical growth
  - Lack of size
  - Lack of strength
  - Lack of stamina

FMI

http://www.nagcat.org/nagcat/?page=nagcat_prm_childdev
Why do some farmers and ranchers put their children at risk (usually unintentionally)?
Why do some farmers and ranchers put their children at risk (usually unintentionally)?

They may believe . . .

• It’s a part of the farm culture.
• They are teaching children about work.
• They think the child automatically knows or has the basic skills (osmosis).
• They are equipping children with practical skills & knowledge.
• There is a sense of pride for their children.
• A child could be the “extra” worker when there is a need.
The Real Costs of Injuries & Accidents

• Economic costs
• Emotional costs
• Physical pain
• Lost time
What can we do?

• As farmers and ranchers
  – Job analysis
• As family members
• As AgrAbility staff and agricultural service providers
Where are the hazards?

http://www.worksafebcphotchallenge.com/may-june-2016/
Where are the hazards?

Participant Testimonials from You

• Without using names, describe what happened and how could it have been avoided.
  – Real life stories of children being asked to perform certain chores or tasks on farms
  – Real life stories of children being injured or killed on farms/ranches
Resources

SAY National Clearinghouse. The SAY Project has developed a National Clearinghouse that shows the alignment of agricultural safety and health curriculum and educational resources to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Standards used by agricultural educators.

http://extension.psu.edu/business/ag-safety/youth-safety/say-project
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Focus &amp; Features</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>Cultivate Safety</td>
<td>A website that includes easy-to-use information about child development and best-practice workplace guidelines to prevent childhood agricultural injuries on the farm.</td>
<td>Designed for farm parents, this website provides information and tools. It includes information on child development, workplace guidelines for both family and hired youth, and a model policy for employing young workers and a report of child farm injury news clippings. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.cultivesafety.com">www.cultivesafety.com</a></td>
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<td>NACAT Good Poster Program</td>
<td>Available for 12 farm tasks and provides information about agricultural hazards, supervision, and parent roles.</td>
<td>NAGCAT posters are a resource to assist parents in ensuring the health and safety of children working on farms. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.nagcat.org">www.nagcat.org</a></td>
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<td>Safety Guidelines for Hired Agricultural Farm Workers (SAFW)</td>
<td>A 30-page booklet containing two training sheets along with safety guidelines posters in English and Spanish.</td>
<td>These guidelines address supervisors' responsibilities, health characteristics, training and supervision topics, and pertinent federal regulations with references to obtain state-specific child labor regulations. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org/safw">www.marineclinic.org/safw</a></td>
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<td>Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms</td>
<td>A 30-page booklet that provides comprehensive guidelines for designing and building outdoor safe play areas on farms.</td>
<td>The Safe Play book is a resource to assist in designing a play area that is based on characteristics of children who will use the area, adult supervision, and the site's agricultural and environmental conditions. Recommendations for play activities are provided. Resources available at: [<a href="http://www.marineclinic.org/saf">www.marineclinic.org/saf</a> TG](<a href="http://www.marineclinic.org/saf">http://www.marineclinic.org/saf</a> TG)</td>
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<td>Seeds of Safety</td>
<td>A single-page safety sheets. Topics include: ATV Safety, Equestrian Safety, and Rural Water Safety.</td>
<td>These safety sheets contain basic facts and prevention strategies to assist states and communities with preventing injury to children and adolescents. They can be distributed at clinics, hospitals, etc. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org">www.marineclinic.org</a></td>
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<td>Model Policy: Youth Employment in Agriculture</td>
<td>Guidance on age, employment, and development-appropriate assignments, training needs for young workers, and supervision and mentoring by adult workers.</td>
<td>This policy can be applied in both employment and non-employment settings to help safeguard young farm workers. The policy, recommendations for its use and resources are available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org">www.marineclinic.org</a></td>
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<td>Agricultural Health and Safety Guidelines</td>
<td>Measure guidelines used to ensure the health and safety of children working on farms or ranches.</td>
<td>An interactive website, &quot;Integrating Safety into AgTourism,&quot; provides access to the guidelines, checklists, and resources. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org/agtourism">www.marineclinic.org/agtourism</a> Interactive website: <a href="http://www.safeagtourism.com">www.safeagtourism.com</a></td>
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<td>Pesticides Report: But Sleeping Healthy is a 16-page educational comic book available in English or Spanish.</td>
<td>This comic book targets migrant and seasonal farmworker families and helps educate parents about pesticide safety and ways to minimize risks to children. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org">www.marineclinic.org</a></td>
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<td>&quot;Stay a Tradition&quot; campaign includes different posters available in English, Spanish, and French.</td>
<td>TV and radio public service announcements are also available for download.</td>
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<td>&quot;I Didn't Know&quot; campaign educates children and adults about the dangers of ATV riding. Posters and rack cards are available.</td>
<td>The national campaign aims to keep kids younger than 13 away from tractors. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.childsafety.org/products/">www.childsafety.org/products/</a></td>
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<td>Harvesting Health</td>
<td>A series of single-page sheets that answer frequently asked questions about health and safety issues commonly found on farms.</td>
<td>Selected topics in the Harvesting Health series include: Children and Dairying; Bovine Salmonella; Eye Protection; and Hearing Loss. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.marineclinic.org">www.marineclinic.org</a></td>
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<td>Media Guidelines</td>
<td>A single sheet resource that discusses the Do's and Don'ts for depicting agricultural practices in film and TV pictures. It is available in English and French.</td>
<td>Media Guidelines can be used by advertising professionals to ensure safe depiction of agricultural practices. Resources available at: <a href="http://www.childsafety.org/products/">www.childsafety.org/products/</a></td>
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Another Resource

http://www.marshfieldresearch.org/nfmc/other-resources