

FARM/RANCH SAFETY INVENTORY TOOL

This inventory was developed by Purdue University's Agricultural Safety and Health program to serve as a simple, self-guided tool for conducting a whole-farm or ranch assessment in order to identify potential workplace hazards and unsafe work practices. It is based on past agricultural-related fatality and injury data, and addresses those hazards that have the highest potential for causing human injury or property losses. The inventory is available in a downloadable format so that copies are available for individuals to conduct their own assessments.

No hazard assessment tool can be all-inclusive due to the wide diversity of enterprises that can be found in agricultural production, and each individual producer's experience, skills, and work practices. If there is uncertainty concerning a specific hazard or practice, it would be appropriate to contact the insurance carrier, county Extension Educator, professional engineer or on-line sources for technical assistance. Feel free to add additional inventory items that address unique hazards identified during the assessment.

An assessment of this type should not be a one-time occurence, but should be repeated at least annually along with a record of the corrective actions needed and taken. A copy should be filed with the operation's other safety resources and could be beneficial in documenting efforts taken to enhance the safety and health of the workplace.

Farmer's/Rancher's/Grower's Name:	Date Inventory was Completed:
Address:	
	Person(s) Completing Inventory:

Safe Farm Management Practices	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed
Family/worker safety and health is a part of the written mission statement for the farm or ranch.		
A member of the management team is responsible for promoting and assessing practices and policies that ensure the safety and health of all those who live and work at the farm or ranch.		
There is a central location where safety-related resources, personal protective equipment, first-aid supplies, operator manuals, and safety policies are maintained and accessible to all workers.		
Safety and health instruction is conducted on a regular basis for all family members and workers and documented, including topic, date, and attendees.		
All employed youth under the age of 16 are trained and certified under provisions of the Federal Hazardous Occupations Order in Agriculture (HOOA).		
Young and beginning workers are provided an orientation to the workplace, provided instruction on completing assigned tasks, and monitored during the orientation period.		
The consequences for failure to comply with safe and healthy work practices and policies are clearly communicated to all workers.		
There is a clear policy on the required use of personal protective equipment and all required equipment is accessible to workers.		
Appropriate toilet and hand washing facilities are provided for all workers.		
Personal hygiene practices, including proper hand washing, are being used to prevent disease transmission and meet safe food handling standards.		
Each employee has been informed of their rights to a safe and healthy workplace under the provisions of OSHA.		
The appropriate OSHA information poster is displayed in a location accessible to employees if the farm falls under OSHA compliance rules.		

Safe Work Practices	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
No extra riders are allowed on self-propelled equipment except for instructional purposes.		
Small children are not allowed to play or be present in the workplace except with close supervision.		
Only ROPS-equipped tractors are used to operate equipment on side hills or ditch banks.		
Foldable ROPS are always kept in the raised position except when the tractor is operated in low clearance situations.		
No one is allowed to enter a grain bin, grain storage structure, silo, or manure storage facility without a hazard assessment and supervision.		
Internal combustion engines are never operated inside a building without adequate ventilation.		
No worker under the age of 16 is allowed to work with breeding livestock, including bulls, boars, or animals with nursing young present.		
Only individuals who are certified are allowed to handle, mix, or apply restricted use chemicals.		
Smoking is not permitted in the workplace or only in designated areas.		
Emergency Management	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
The farm/ranch has developed a written Emergency Action Plan and communicated it to all family members and employees regarding their responsibilities in the event of an emergency.		
At least one member of the management team or family has completed up-to-date training in first-aid and CPR.		
Well-maintained first aid kit is located in each major building.		
Each worker is equipped with a means of two-way communication in the event of an emergency.		
All family members and employees have been trained and authorized to call 911 in the event of an emergency.		
A safe, designated meeting place has been established for all staff (employees and family) to gather in the event of an emergency, including severe weather.		

Emergency Management (continued)	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Contact information for all employees is maintained in a safe location in the event that he or she, or another family member, needs to be contacted in the event of an emergency.		
A member of the management team has been designated to be the sole spokesperson for the farm/ranch in the event of an emergency.		
A list been developed and posted of key contacts that might be needed in the event of an emergency. This might include: law enforcement, veterinarian, fuel supplier, chemical supplier, power/utility companies.		
A potential landing site been identified in the event that a medical helicopter would have to land at the farm/ranch.		
An emergency action plan is posted in each livestock building to reference in the event of power failure.		
A plan has been developed for the safe disposal of livestock carcasses in the event of loss due to fire, disease, or depopulation.		
Personal Protective Equipment	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Safety glasses, face shields, or goggles are available at grinders, chemical-handling areas, and other sites that are sources of eye hazards.		
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Farmstead and Buildings	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Farmstead and buildings are free of trash/debris/junk that could cause falls, or be a fire hazard, or attract rodents.		
Older buildings are structurally sound.		
Buildings and outdoor work areas are well lighted.		
Two-way communication devices are available in each major farm building or available to each worker.		
Emergency phone numbers are clearly posted in each major farm building.		
Fully charged ABC-type fire extinguisher is located in each farm building near main access door.		
Electrical wiring and lighting fixtures are in good condition, protected by conduits or not exposed to Internal combustion engines are never operated inside a building without adequate ventilation.		
Exposed wiring insulation is in good condition with no visible cracks, damage, or exposed wires.		
Lighting fixtures mounted in locations that prevent contact with combustible material.		
All electric outlets are three-prong grounded type.		
Ground Fault Interrupters (GFI) are used wherever wet conditions may occur.		
Stairs, ladders are in good condition.		
Stairs are clear of objects and slippery substances and have secure handrails.		
Floors are free of broken concrete, slick spots, or bumps that could cause trips and falls.		
Overhead storage areas have weight limits posted and are equipped with adequate guardrails and toeboards.		
Crop and Feed Storage Areas	ок	Corrective Actions Needed
All electrical controls are clearly labeled and equipped with Lock Out/Tag Out capability.		
Flowing grain hazard warnings are posted at each access to grain storage facilities and on each storage structure.		
Entrances to grain, feed, or silage storage areas can be locked.		
Silo and bin ladders are in good condition.		
All bins have both inside and outside ladders and provide at least 6 inches of toe clearance.		

Crop and Feed Storage Areas (Continued)	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Fully charged ABC type fire extinguisher is available in crop storage area, and near grain dryer.		
Approved respirators (N-95) are available for workers handling moldy or dusty grain and feed, or for cleaning grain bins.		
Warnings are posted regarding the danger of silo gas, on each silo.		
Grain storage and grain dryers are free of trash, spilled grain, and fire hazards such as high grass or weeds.		
LP gas tanks and lines to dryers are in good condition and free of damage.		
Electric motors are placed in areas with adequate ventilation and are free of trash, dust, or other fire hazards.		
Overhead power lines are located away from bins and silos and where portable augers may be used.		
Warnings concerning the potential avalanche of the contents from the face of bunk silos are clearly posted.		
Chemical Storage Areas	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Chemical Storage Areas Agricultural chemicals are stored in a secured room or building to keep out children and animals.	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed
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Fuel Storage Areas	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Underground fuel tanks are monitored for leaks by tracking inventory.		
Required diking or secondary containment is in place around above-ground bulk fuel storage tanks.		
"NO SMOKING" and static electricity warning signs are displayed near fuel storage/refueling areas.		
Fuel pumps are grounded and locked.		
Fuel hoses and fittings are in good condition with no leaks.		
Weeds, trash, and other easily combustible materials are kept away from fuel storage areas.		
At least one fully charged ABC-type fire extinguisher is located in close proximity to fuel storage area.		
Each fuel storage tank is properly labeled as to its contents.		
Only approved fuel storage containers are used to transport fuel.		
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LP gas tanks are at least 40 feet from buildings and clearly labeled.		
	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed
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Small Powered Equipment All gasoline powered engines have mufflers to prevent	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed
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Small Powered Equipment All gasoline powered engines have mufflers to prevent sparks, and reduce noise level. Walk-behind tillers are properly shielded to prevent contact with tires. Lawn maintenance equipment including mowers, hedge and weed trimmers, and blowers are properly shielded. Only grounded extension cords are used on 120 volt powered maintenance equipment. Back pack, engine powered chemical applicators and blowers are free of leaks and properly guarded. PTO-operated equipment, including tillers, planters	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed

Tractors*	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Tractors are equipped with ROPS. ROPS-equipped tractors have seat belts.		
Tractors without ROPS do not have seat belts.		
All PTO master shields are in place and in good condition.		
All shields over belts, pulleys, and fans are in place and in good condition.		
Reflectors and SMV emblems are clean and unfaded.		
Hazard alert decals are in place and legible.		
A minimum 5-pound ABC type fire extinguisher is mounted on each tractor.		
All lights and flashers are clean and in working order.		
Cab windows and mirrors are free of crack and kept clean to maintain good visibility.		
If equipped, air conditioner filters cleaned or replaced regularly.		
Operator's platform and steps kept clear of grease, mud, and tools.		
Correctly sized safety hitch pin available on each tractor.		
Fuel, oil, and hydraulic systems are free of leaks, are maintained at proper fluid levels, and hoses/lines are in good condition.		
Tires are in good condition and kept at recommended pressure.		
Wheel lugs are all in place and tight.		
Muffler and exhaust systems properly maintained and free of leaks.		
Steering is free of excessive play.		
Brakes are in good condition and adjusted evenly.		
Parking brake in working order.		
Keys are not left in the ignition when tractors are parked unattended.		
If cab equipped, weather stripping and sound proofing material are in good condition.		

^{*} Additional copies of this page can be made for use with each tractor being used on the farm or ranch.

Towed Equipment	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Equipment is marked with reflectors and lights for highway travel.		
Lights and reflectors are in place, clean, and in working order.		
Belts, chains, and PTO shafts are adequately shielded.		
Bolts, welds, safety hitch pins, and hitches are in good condition.		
Each piece of equipment is equipped with a clean SMV emblem that is not faded.		
PTO components are properly shielded.		
Hydraulic components appear in good condition and free of leaks.		
Transport locks used to take load off hydraulic system during transport are in working order.		
Jack stands are in good working condition.		
Tires are in good condition and inflated to recommended pressure.		
Safety chains, if equipped, are used when transporting equipment on the highway.		
All wheel lugs are in place and tightened.		
Wheel bearings and seals do not show excessive wear or leakage.		
Wagon decks free of broken boards and holes.		
Hazard alert decals are in place and legible.		
All gravity-flow unloading wagons are labeled with a warning about suffocation hazards.		
Harvesting Equipment	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Guards and shields are in place.		
Ladders and steps are in good repair and clear of grease, mud, and tools.		
Each piece of equipment is equipped with a clean and unfaded SMV emblem.		
Self-propelled harvesters are equipped with at least one 10-pound ABC-type fire extinguisher.		

Harvesting Equipment (continued)	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Operator's manual is in cab for reference when making adjustments.		
Fuel, oil, and hydraulic systems are free of leaks; hoses and lines are in good condition.		
Belts and chains are properly adjusted.		
Header safety latch, jack stands, and/or safety locks are in good working order.		
Flashers/lights are clean and working properly.		
Reflectors/SMV emblems are clean and not faded.		
Windows are free of cracks and kept clean.		
For PTO-operated machines, the PTO components are properly shielded.		
Cab weather stripping and sound-proofing material is in good condition.		
Wheel bearings/seals do not show excessive wear or leaks.		
Components that chop or distribute crop material shielded to protect operator.		
Chemical Application Equipment	ОК	Corrective Actions Need
Necessary personal protective equipment (gloves, goggles, etc.) is available for each applicator.		
Soap and water available for decontamination.		
Nozzles, fittings, hoses, and lines are in good condition and free of leaks.		
Control valves work easily by hand without leakage.		
All pressure gauges read accurately.		
Sprayer tank lids and covers fit snugly to prevent spillage.		
On PTO-driven applicators, driveline components are properly shielded.		
Tank mounting hardware in good condition and secure.		

Anhydrous Application Equipment	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Valves, fittings, and hoses are in good repair.		
Hoses and couplings have not passed their expiration date.		
Approved rubber gloves and non-vented chemical goggles are available with each nurse tank and applicator.		
Each nurse tank or applicator has 5 gallons of fresh water mounted on it, as required by law.		
Each worker is equipped with a personal water bottle in the event of eye exposure.		
Nurse tanks or applicators transported on public highways are equipped with SMV emblems, safety hitch pins, and safety chains, and clearly marked.		
Tires, wheel bearings, running gears, and tank mounting hardware on nurse tanks are in good condition.		
Nurse tanks are secured or under surveillance to prevent vandalism or theft of ammonia.		
Only individuals of legal age and who have been trained are allowed to transport, transfer, or apply anhydrous ammonia.		
The towing capacity of the tractor or truck used to transport anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks is not exceeded.		
Portable Augers and Elevators	ОК	Corrective Actions Needed
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	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
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Livestock Facilities	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Approved respirators are available for use in dusty conditions, especially in confinement buildings.		
Doorways and aisles are free of obstructions and sharp projections, such as nails and hooks.		
Ceilings are 8-12 feet and door frames are at least 8 feet high, with a minimum width of 4 feet.		
Windows accessible to horses and livestock are covered with bars or screening, and made of safety glass.		
Water sources such as metal water tanks with water heaters are grounded to prevent electric shock.		
Cross-ties and other tying areas are provided, and safety release snaps are utilized.		
Is livestock restraining equipment such as headgates and squeeze chutes available and in good condition.		
Grooming and wash stalls are in open areas - clean and well-drained to prevent wet and/or icy floors.		
Are all light bulbs protected from potential breakage.		
Hay is stored away from heat/electrical sources, including lighting fixtures and, if possible, in a separate building from where livestock and horses are housed.		
Hay and bedding bales are securely stacked.		
Tack rooms have adequate racks and storage areas to keep equipment off the floor and out of the path of traffic.		
Turnout paddock and pasture fencing is 4-6 feet in height, free of protrusions, and of sturdy construction.		
Gates are at least 4 feet wide, swing freely, and have no sharp edges or corners.		
Ponds, manure lagoons, irrigation ditches, and open ditches are fenced and/or posted with appropriate warnings.		
Access doors to manure pits are secure and labeled with appropriate warnings as to the presence of toxic gases.		
Barn cleaners and other manure handling equipment are properly shielded.		
Adequate ventilation is provided for all livestock confinement buildings.		
Emergency plan is posted for steps to take in the event of power failure.		
Appropriate signage posted to alert visitors to the hazards of livestock.		

OK	Corrective Actions Needed
ОК	Corrective Actions Needed

Shop Tools (continued)	OK	Corrective: Attition s Neededd
Grinders have guards and are equipped with properly adjusted work rests.		
Battery-charging area is well ventilated and located away from any ignition source, such as the welder.		
All belts, pulleys, and chains on power tools are guarded.		
Portable power tools and extension cords are in good condition (e.g. no cuts or taped splices).		
Portable power tools are equipped with grounded cords or are double insulated.		
Hearing protection is worn when operating air impact tools and high speed grinders.		
Welding area is kept dry.		
Compressed-gas cylinders are capped and secured in place and turned off when not in use.		
Spare fuel and oxygen cylinders are capped and not stored in close proximity to each other.		
Arc-welding cables are in good condition.		
Ventilation is adequate to dissipate welding fumes.		
Relief valves on air compressors in good condition.		
Air pressume guage available to prevent over inflatton of tires.		
All compressed-air nozzles are equipped with an approved pressure-reduction nozzle (less than 30 psi).		
Grinding wheels are kept dressed, securely mounted, and in good condition.		
All portable lighting is impact resistant with protection over the bulb.		
Fields and Deadures	OK	Convective Actions Needed
Fields and Roadwas	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
Fields are free of stumps, large rocks, tile holes, or other obstacles to cropping operations.		
Large immovable obstacles (e.g. corner posts, well heads, irrigation hydrants, drain vents) are flagged or well-marked for visibility, even in tall crops.		
Buffer zones along drainage ditches and water ways allow safe maneuvering of machinery.		
Low branches of trees are trimmed to allow machinery to pass underneath.		

Fields and Roadways (continued)	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
There is clear vision in both directions as you enter public road ways from farm driveway and field exits.		
Driveway entrance is wide enough to permit entering or exiting without swinging truck, tractor, or combine into opposite lane of traffic.		
Corners of all intersections on the farm are kept clear of tall crops that might block vision of drivers on the road.		
Overhead power lines are not sagging below 12 feet or near tree limbs. (Do not attempt to measure – an electrocution hazard.)		
All unused wells and cisterns are securely covered or properly filled.		
Drain pipes and tiles in side ditches are marked.		
Waterways are seeded to prevent erosion and the forming of gulleys or ditches.		
Low areas are tiled to prevent equipment from becoming stuck.		
Livestock, Utility, and Grain Trailers	OK	Corrective Actions Needed
All lights and reflectors are in place and in working order.		
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List the top 10 hazards that need immediate attention to reduce the risk of injury.

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