



SAFETY ESSENTIAL WHEN TAKING KIDS TO VISIT A FARM

The nursery rhyme does not state, "Old MacDonald had a farm and on this farm there was a bunch of dangerous things." But maybe it should?

Farmers perform an essential service, providing food and other products that consumers commonly take for granted. The inner workings of a farm are something to treat with respect. Most of the families who live and work on a farm understand the potential hazards of such an environment. However, individuals visiting a farm may be unaware of these dangers. Understanding farm safety helps keep everyone safe.

According to the organization Kids Health, the age groups at greatest risk for injury on farms are children ages three to four and teenagers ages 13 to 14. Most injuries can be prevented, though, with a little education and precautionary measures.

Machinery

There are many different forms of machinery on a farm to help keep it working efficiently. These items can pose serious safety risks. Although tractors are the type of farm equipment that causes the most injuries, some adults still think it is safe to allow children to ride along.

Injuries that may result from farm machinery include pinching of clothing or parts of the body, where a person may become trapped in the gears or components of equipment; cuts from equipment that shears crops; bruising or cuts from projectiles thrown by mowers or other field equipment; and crushing or trapping injuries from machinery that falls or tips over.

Animals

Part of the excitement of visiting a farm is seeing and petting the animals. Although many animals may be docile and domesticated, they can still be unpredictable. Animals that are startled by yelling or loud noises also may become restless and dangerous.

Children should understand that animals may unintentionally cause injuries. It may be in a horse's defense mechanism to kick when it is scared. To avoid such injuries, never approach animals from behind. Also, when baby animals are present, a female may be protective of her brood and go on the defensive.



Another inadvertent injury that may occur is from bacteria or viruses from the animals. Animal feces may contain bacteria, and there may be other microorganisms on the animals themselves. It is a smart idea to always wash your hands after handling a farm animal to prevent the spread of disease.

Here are some other precautions that can be taken when visiting a farm.

- Don't allow children to wander around unsupervised.
- Rides on farm equipment should be discouraged.
- Before starting machinery, operators should locate children and other guests and clear them from the work area.
- Don't allow children near machinery.
- Children under the age of 16 should not be allowed to operate any farm vehicles.
- Watch for hand tools or other equipment, and keep children away from them.
- Do not touch animals unless a farm worker allows it. Then follow his or her instructions.
- Don't provoke farm animals or attempt to startle them.
- Supervise children around ponds, feeding troughs or manure lagoons. It only takes a few inches of water to pose a drowning risk.

Farms are interesting places to visit, especially for children. Safety should always be a priority when visiting a farm.

FIRE IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS NEED TO BE HANDLED WITH CARE

BY DAVID E. BAKER
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURAL
ENGINEERING, U OF MO EXT.

With increased agricultural production, farmers are using more fertilizers and chemicals. This has caused new problems for firefighters due to the numerous types of chemicals used and the increase in chemical storage by farmers and suppliers.

Chemicals used by farmers and commercial applicators include: fertilizers and soil conditioners, soil fumigants, herbicides, pesticides, rodenticides, insecticides, fungicides, explosives, etc. Many of these chemicals release toxic fumes with little or no warning when exposed to fire. Most serious are the organic phosphates, such as parathion and malathion, and chlorinated hydrocarbons.

When fighting chemical fires, wear protective clothing, use a self-contained breathing apparatus (air paks) and have sufficient air available to complete the job. For additional protection, work on the upwind side of the fire.

Firefighters should spend more time with farmers and suppliers to plan in case of a fire. Trade names and formulations number in the thousands. Many of these are chemicals that are poisonous both for their intended to humans. Proper storage, hazard identification, established emergency procedures and

firefighter training are extremely important.

Fighting fires involving agricultural chemicals

Firefighters responding to fires involving agricultural chemicals should follow these steps:

- After receiving a call for a fire involving chemicals, notify physicians and hospitals to be prepared to receive possible poison victims. (Hospitals should have a card file on each storage facility listing the type of chemicals stored and the manufacturer of each.)
- Evacuate the downwind area and isolate the area. Patrol this area to keep spectators out.
- Before attempting to fight the fire, use the correct personal protective equipment. This includes rubber gloves, boots, turn-outs and helmets. If contact cannot be avoided, also wear a self-contained breathing apparatus.
- Avoid working in areas on the downwind side of the fire. Attack the fire from a safe distance. Bottles, drums, metal and aerosol cans are not vented and may explode.
- Attempt to contain the fire and protect the surroundings. Prevent the spread of the fire by cooling nearby containers to prevent rupture.
- Avoid raising a flammable, explosive, or toxic dust.
- Use soft water streams such as fog to avoid tearing open paper con-

tainers or breaking jars.

- Use foam when large volumes of flammable solvents are released from ruptured metal or glass containers.

- Cool drums containing flammable solvents with water spray.

- * Keep a safe distance in case of explosion.

- Keep toxic runoff to a minimum by avoiding the use of large quantities of water. Construct dikes to prevent flow into lakes, streams, sewers, etc. (the cooling effect of water retards high-temperature decomposition of chemicals to less toxic compounds).

Fertilizers

Although most fertilizers are quite stable, there have been problems of fires and explosions with materials such as ammonium nitrate.

Ammonium nitrate

Like other inorganic nitrates, ammonium nitrate is an oxidizing agent and will increase the intensity of fire. All grades of ammonium nitrate can be detonated if they are in the proper crystalline form, if the initiating source is sufficiently large or if they are heated under sufficient confinement. The degree of confinement necessary usually is greatest for the purest material.

Storage recommendations for bagged and bulk ammonium nitrate are published in NFPA num-

ber 490, "Code for the Storage of Ammonium Nitrate." The standard covers building construction, pile sizes, spacing and separation of ammonium nitrate from contaminating material that could increase its sensitivity during a fire. Also covered are flow, cleanliness of the storage area and precautions against ignition sources.

Fire fighting procedures for ammonium nitrate should include:

- Approach the fire from the upwind side. Use a self-contained breathing apparatus (vapors from decomposing ammonium nitrate are extremely toxic).
- Create as much ventilation as possible to permit smoke, gases and heat to escape and to prevent pressure build-up.
- Flood the burning ammonium nitrate with water to rapidly reduce the temperature of the burning material.
- Because ammonium nitrate is an oxidizing material (decomposes under certain conditions to yield oxygen and increase a fire's intensity), smothering agents such as inert gases, steam, foam, dry chemicals or sand will have no effect.

Anhydrous ammonia

Anhydrous ammonia can cause severe burns upon contact. Contact

See CHEMICAL FIRES, Page 7

Call BRIAN KNUDTSON
for all your farm finance needs
641-592-0041

106 West Main St.
Lake Mills, IA
www.mbtbank.com

MBT Bank FDIC

CULTIVATE A SAFE WORKPLACE



LOOK UP and LOOK OUT for power lines!

Heartland POWER COOPERATIVE

Thompson & St. Ansgar
www.heartlandpower.com
641-584-2251 | 641-713-4965

WISHING YOU A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL HARVEST SEASON

We care about the health & safety of farmers during this busy season and offer these safety tips . . .

- Carry a fire extinguisher on each piece of power equipment
- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings at all times

AgVantage FS ES

Lake Mills: 102 N Lake St • Lake Mills, IA 50450 • 641-592-0011 • Northwood: 916 Central Ave • Northwood, IA 50459 • 641-592-0011 • Waverly: 1600 8th Street SW, P.O. Box 828 • Waverly, IA 50677 • 319-483-4900
www.agvantagefs.com

The Leader You Can Trust!

BROCK

DIFFERENT BY DESIGN™

Larson Contracting

www.larsoncontracting.com
1-800-765-1426

Brock's industry-leading grain systems are designed to perform together to match your needs and to provide a better return on your investment. You can trust Brock for:

- ✓ High-quality grain storage - capacities up to 1.34 million bushels for the largest commercial grain bin models.
- ✓ Reliable grain handling systems - engineered for farm or commercial use.
- ✓ Innovative, energy-efficient grain conditioning and drying systems.

Now is the best time to plan for and purchase new equipment. Contact us today to order an industry-leading system from Brock - the leader you can trust.

High-Capacity (7,800 bph) HARVEST-TIME® Sweep And Unloading System

SUPERB ENERGY MISER® SQ Series Grain Dryers With Super-Quiet Centrifugal Fans

Popular, Award-Winning TRI-CORR® Drying Floor With PARTHENON® Support

It's great to be part of a farm community.

Because we partner with the #1 farm insurer* that has over 100 years of experience in protecting American agriculture, we're confident we can help protect your operation today and for future generations.

More than just insurance.
We offer top of the line protection for your farm or ranch operation, with flexible coverages and exceptional claims, underwriting and risk management services.

We offer Nationwide farm and ranch insurance and would welcome the chance to discuss it with you.

Boyken Insurance Agency, Inc.
Titonka - Forest City - Thompson
(515) 928-2085
info@boykenins.com

Nationwide

*2015 SNL Financial Report. Based on statutory data.
Products underwritten by Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company, Farmland Mutual Insurance Company, Allied Property and Casualty Insurance Company and AMCO Insurance Company. Home Office: 1100 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50391. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review and approval. Products and discounts not available to all persons in all states. Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2017 Nationwide GPO-0292AO (06/16) 6053307

WISHING OUR LOCAL FARMERS A SAFE HARVEST SEASON

The same tradition of hard work and innovation that has made POET one of the world's largest producers of ethanol and other bio-refined products, is the same tradition that makes Hanlontown a great place to live and work. We're proud to call Hanlontown home.

See the world differently.
POET.COM/Hanlontown | 888.434.0095

POET
HUMAN + NATURE

CHEMICAL FIRES

From Page 6

with the liquid ammonia also can cause loss of sight, severe injury of the respiratory membranes and varying degrees of irritation of skin, eyes and mucous membranes. For these reasons, use adequate body protection—a self-contained breathing apparatus with full face shields (air paks) and full protective clothing. If working around the shut-off valves, also wear rubber gloves and a rubber apron to protect your body from contact with liquid.

If you are exposed to liquid anhydrous ammonia, wash the exposed area with water for at least 15 minutes or until you receive medical attention.

Anhydrous ammonia fire fighting procedures should include:

- Stop the flow of the anhydrous ammonia gases by shutting off all valves and disconnecting all hoses from storage, nurse and applicator tanks.
- If in an enclosed area, ventilate the fire.
- Keep the storage vessels cooled with water.
- Anhydrous fires can be extinguished with dry chemicals, carbon dioxide or a water spray.
- Always use proper personal protective equipment.

Urea

Urea is classified as a non-flammable material by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Urea will not support combustion by itself but melts at a temperature of 534.2 degrees Fahrenheit. At temperatures higher than 534.2 degrees Fahrenheit, it begins to decompose, giving off mildly toxic fumes. For this reason, the toxicity hazard of urea is given as slightly dangerous.

Urea fire fighting procedures should include:

- Approach the fire on the upwind side.
- Flood the area to reduce the temperature of the burning mass.
- Provide adequate ventilation to prevent pressure, temperature and toxic fumes build-up (self-contained breathing equipment is recommended to protect personnel against toxic fumes).

Phosphate fertilizer materials

Phosphate fertilizers commonly used and stored in blending plants (triple super phosphate, diammonium phosphate) will not support combustion and have a melting point in excess of 1500 degrees Celsius. Both of these are rated as slightly dangerous in toxicity.

Fire fighting procedures should include:

- Flood the area to reduce the temperature.
- Provide adequate ventilation.
- Wear protective clothing and breathing apparatus.

Potash fertilizer materials

Muriate of potash is the principal potassium-containing fertilizer used as a bulk blending ingredient. It is rated slightly dangerous as a fire and toxicity hazard.

Fire fighting procedures for muriate of potash is the same as for phosphate fertilizer.

Chemical fires

Fire in a warehouse or farm storage area where agricultural chemicals are stored may create a great hazard to fire fighters, inhabitants and livestock, because the possibility of poisoning is added to the usual fire hazards. In addition, if proper fire fighting procedure is not followed, water or chemicals used to fight the fire could easily spread

contamination over a wide area. For this reason, planning and training for chemical fires are very important.

Recommendations

Fire planning and inspection for local fire departments

Annually visit each large chemical storage warehouse and take notes of the following:

- General layout of the facility.
- Locations of hydrants, normal and alternate access roads, gates, fences.
- Surrounding building occupancies and land use.
- Means of ventilation.
- Means of controlling drainage at and adjacent to the facility.
- Prepare a list of day and night telephone numbers of:
 - Facility operators.
 - Physician (familiar with the products).
 - Poison Control Center.
 - Manufacturers of the products.
 - Establish a card file on each facility to make the officers aware of the hazards they might face in fighting the fire.
 - Establish a reference manual of the systems of poisoning and what to do in case of contact with the chemicals stored in the facility.
 - Recommend chemical storage procedures to owners or managers. Chemicals should be stored away from other fire hazards.

Post-fire clean-up

Personal precautions

Remove protective clothing upon leaving the site and impound with contaminated fire fighting equipment.

Upon returning to the station, shower and shampoo thoroughly with soap and water to remove traces of toxic chemicals.

Wash inner clothing with detergent and put on clean clothes.

Watch for signs and symptoms of pesticide poisoning.

Wash all personal clothing, protective clothing and respirators in an isolated area. Put on coveralls and rubber gloves and use respiratory protection when cleaning clothing and equipment.

Fire site

Isolate and secure scene to keep people away.

Contact public health department for disposal instructions and approval.

Handle waste and runoff same as for a product spill. Personal protective equipment is required.

Be aware of aid available to you. The National Agricultural Chemicals Association has a network of safety teams to assist you in case of major pesticide spillage that may result from a fire. To contact NCA, telephone Cincinnati, Ohio, call and ask for help, 513-961-4300.

The Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTREC) provides emergency personnel with information on safety measures in handling hazardous chemicals involved in accidents on the nation's highways, railroads and waterways. CHEMTREC is a voluntary program operated by 165 U.S. member companies. Assistance is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 800-424-9300.

References

Recommended Procedures for Fighting Fire Involving Fertilizer Material, Missouri Farmers Association, Inc., 201 South Seventh Street, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

Fire Department Guidelines — Agricultural and Garden Chemical Fires, Chevron Chemical Company, 575 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105.

Safety Manual for Handling and Warehousing Class B Poison Pesticides, National Agricultural Chemicals Association, 1155 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

Fire Hazards of Stored Pesticides, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.



Teach children farm safety

BY LINDA GEIST
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
EXTENSION

Agriculture-related incidents injure 33 children every day, and every three days a child dies from one, says University of Missouri Extension safety and health specialist Karen Funkenbusch.

"Protecting our future generation needs to be a top priority!" she says.

Funkenbusch urges farm families to talk about child safety on the farm and to follow these three tips to protect the next generation of farmers:

1. Use personal protective equipment to help prevent health issues in adulthood.

Severe sunburns and sun exposure during childhood are often linked to skin cancer. Provide children with sunscreen and wide-brim hats when they are in the sun.

Encourage children to use hearing protection when they are around the farm. Provide a positive example by wearing hearing protection yourself.

2. Children visiting the farm need protection too. Children who are not used to the large equipment and animals on a farm need to be educated about farm safety at the beginning of a visit, Funkenbusch says.

Nonfarm families may not understand safe practices regarding animals, chemicals and equipment.

Establish and enforce rules for all visitors to ensure safety.

Supervise children closely, especially those unfamiliar with farming.

Make the play area more fun than the farmstead.

3. Putting safety first means safety always and for everyone, Funkenbusch says.

Teach children what to do in the event of a fire, severe weather and other emergencies. Show them how to dial 911 and write down the physical address of the farm in key areas.

Be a role model for safety. Do not allow extra riders on all-terrain vehicles and tractors.

Do not allow children to play in grain bins.



JEREMY D. ROGSTAD, AGENT
88 8th St. N.
Northwood, IA 50459
641-324-2141
jeremy.rogstad.nrom@statefarm.com

Quality Insurance Great Rates

The right insurance coverage can go a long way toward protecting your farm & family, but making safety a top priority is essential to your continued success.



Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
CALL ME TODAY.

FOR YOUR OWN GOOD...



Inspect equipment regularly for hazards.
Always wear a seatbelt while on a tractor.
Store chemicals in their original containers, far from children.
Fully stocked first aid kits should be kept handy.
... and always use common sense!

FARMERS TRUST & SAVINGS BANK

Buffalo Center • Lakota • Britt • Lake Mills • Bricelyn
"Ag Lending—Our Field of Expertise"

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK SEPTEMBER 16-23, 2017



Save yourself and your farming operation a lot of potential trouble, time and money. Always follow safe farming practices, and encourage your employees to do so, as well.



Member-owned
Lake Mills • 641-592-2551
Joice • 641-588-3111
Scarville • 641-568-3351
Hanlontown • 641-896-2610
Ventura • 641-829-3891

www.fivestarcop.com



THANK A FARMER

To those who work in acres, not in hours, we thank you. We are proud to protect many of our area farmers with quality farm insurance. Trust in Tomorrow.™ Contact us today.

WINNEBAGO MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

301 W. Main, Lake Mills, IA • 641-592-1271
See Renee Ingledue, Terry Olsen, or Cathy Bernhard

"Trust in Tomorrow," and "Grinnell Mutual" are property of Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, © Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, 2017.



WAGNER TIRE

Hwy. 69 W, Lake Mills • 641-592-5810

Hwy. 69 S, Forest City • 641-585-2288



Call us for all your farm
excavating, tiling & grading needs

641-592-8932

HARVEY ROGNES Excavating & Grading 641-590-3168
JERALD ROGNES Farm Tiling 641-590-3163
JEREMY ROGNES Sewer & Water 641-590-3161

Proud to be a part of the
community farming tradition!
Be safe this fall . . .

THINK FARM SAFETY!



www.securitybankmn.com
Albert Lea, MN 437 Bridge Ave. 800-657-6961
Alden, MN 195 N. Broadway 507-874-3363
Emmons, MN 201 Main St. 1-507-297-5461



WE BELIEVE IN FARM SAFETY
Keep chemicals in a secure storage area.



105 Jackson Street, Thompson, IA • 641-584-2900
www.abwelding.com

Farmers, Have a Safe Fall Harvest!



AG ADVANTAGE SYSTEMS INC.

GRAIN HANDLING EQUIPMENT
THOMPSON, IOWA

11600 Hwy. 9 • 641-584-2600

www.agadvantagesystems.com

Specializing in grain handling, storage, drying and installation since 1995