

Workplace Safety & Prevention Services

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Greenhouse Risk Assessment - Flower & Vegetable

The purpose of the initiative was to provide better information about the risks to employers and their workers, so that the workplace can work to mitigate those risks and reduce the incidence of injury, illness and death in Ontario greenhouse workplaces.

Risk assessments for the Greenhouse, flower and vegetable sector were conducted in 2015-16 using a methodology that used system wide intelligence and a balanced mix of peer-recognized subject matter experts. The process included extraction and application of collective wisdom which brought together those employer and worker representatives who were recognized as experts by their peers in order to identify the leading risks in the sector that could lead to injury or illness. The paper describes the process that was applied to conduct the risk assessment workshops and validate their findings.

There was very close ranking of risks between the flower and vegetable greenhouse sectors allowing for differences that were inherent to the sector (i.e. scissor lifting devices are not a major device in the flower sector however are in the vegetable sub sector). There was a very high agreement between risks identified by employers compared to the worker rankings of risks. There were over 120 individual risks evaluated.