

Background

The farm workshop can be the scene of many injuries. There are a wide variety of work tasks that happen in the shop and there is the potential for many hazards. Many of these injuries involve hands or the eyes. Other injuries involve burns, cuts, abrasions and sprains to various parts of the body.

A tidy, organized workshop is important to safe and effective work.

Work Activity

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

There are plenty of jobs in the workshop that require PPE, some may only require gloves, others might require a robust assortment of PPE, but whatever PPE is required, wearing it properly is essential to injury prevention.

Some standard PPE includes: leather gloves, chemical-resistant gloves, safety glasses, face shields, ear plugs or muffs, steel-toed shoes, respirators, hard hats, protective aprons and welding shields.

PPE should be regularly inspected for damage and wear. Replace any PPE that is outdated, worn or broken.

Slips, trips and falls

- Something as simple as a spill or a tool out of place can cause a fall. Remember: A tidy workshop is a safer workshop.
- Work areas and walkways should be kept clean, free of equipment and clutter. Return tools and dispose of garbage in the proper containers.
- Doorways and exits should always be kept clear. Not only are these tripping hazards, but it could also result in injuries if the workshop has to be evacuated in a hurry.

Cuts, bruises, scrapes and entanglements

- Keeping tools and equipment stored properly and in good condition is an easy way to prevent cuts, scratches and bruises.
- Tools and equipment should be kept clean and maintained. If you notice a broken tool or piece of equipment, address the problem.
- Guards and other safety devices on equipment should be maintained. If a tool or other piece of equipment needs servicing, make sure to replace guards and other safety devices.
- Put away and store tools and other materials that have the potential to cause cuts and scrapes.

Fires and explosions and ventilation

- There are plenty of substances that can cause fires and explosions and could potentially be toxic.
- Always use and store potentially hazardous substances in the manner as specified by the manufacturer.

REMEMBER

PRACTICE SAFE WORK TO PREVENT UNINTENTIONAL INJURIES

- Use the proper tool or equipment for the job.
- Use the tool or equipment as intended.
- Before starting any task, familiarise yourself with the tools and equipment, including safety features.
- Always give full attention to the task at hand, distractions can cause injuries.

Key Points

- Smoking is prohibited in the workshop
- Fire extinguishers, first aid kits and eye wash stations should be up-to-date, stocked and readily available
- Not all tasks should be performed in the workshop. If there is the possibility of carbon monoxide, or other noxious fumes, take the work outdoors.

Other Key Points:

Talk Leader Instructions

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize your talk to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the workers.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible. Ask your workers for their experiences.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.
- ✓ SPEAK UP

Comments / Suggestions:

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

Toolbox Participants

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____