



**Because the
land is your life.**

Farm Safety

Incitec Pivot

FARM SAFETY



FARM SAFETY

Fatalities are a tragic, but preventable, aspect of life on farms

The law says every farm must be a safe workplace.

Under the Occupational Health & Safety Act, all employers are required to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees or any person at that employer's place of work.

In order to achieve this, employer must develop and implement safe systems of work which include consultation with employees, training, supervision, instruction, information, and the risk management process.

What must be done to ensure safety on your farm.

OH&S Regulations made under the Act require all employers in consultation with their employees to identify any **foreseeable** hazards that may arise and that have the potential to harm the health and safety of employees or any person at the employer's place of work.

The employer must ensure that hazards and risks are identified and that effective procedures are in place and implemented to assess and control those hazards and risks.

Employers should be familiar with the OH&S Regulations, Australian Standards, Industry Codes of Practice, and Industry Guides associated with their industry/workplace.

Keeping **children safe** on the farm

Reports show children **under the age of fifteen (15)** are particularly at risk. Some farm structures are extremely hazardous for children. The most dangerous of these include:

- Confined spaces eg: Silos: Binned grain can turn into quick sand, particularly during bottom unloading. Children have also 'drowned' in grain as silos were being filled. Empty silos can also contain toxic gases.
- Farm dams: Unsupervised children can drown in shallow farm dams.
- Unguarded machinery.
- Livestock (Animal handling / crushing).
- Electrical hazards: (exposed wiring / terminals, damaged wiring /cables/ terminal blocks/ accessories, unsafe wiring, poorly maintained installation).
- Falls from heights.
- Tractors / PTO's.
- Augers.
- Dangerous / hazardous substances.
- Explosives.
- Pesticides / Herbicides.
- Firearms and bullets.
- Motorcycles (Ag Bikes).

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Hearing loss, the invisible injury

Unlike other farm traumas, noise induced hearing loss is invisible and not often recognised until a significant level of hearing has been destroyed.

Hearing loss is debilitating, limiting and life changing. It can create major personal problems within the home and in social or business situations.

Extensive research into the problem shows that over 60% of farmers have significant hearing loss.

Recent extension of the research to younger farmers is showing similar patterns in people in their early twenties.

It is common for the left ear to show the greater damage because operators of tractors without noise reducing cabins typically look over the right shoulder at towed implements, exposing the left ear to the exhaust noise.

Hearing loss, the invisible injury

Noise induced hearing loss **cannot** be cured but it is totally preventable by reducing exposure to noise.

The most effective protection is the wearing of personal protection, as described in AS1270 Acoustics - Hearing Protection.

Other vital protective measures include:

- Rearranging workshops so noisy tools are located towards the front of the shed to help dissipate the noise to the outside
- Maintaining equipment to reduce noise by oiling and replacing leaky mufflers, leaky seals, loose brackets
- Purchasing quieter equipment when replacing machinery or tools, check for the decibel rating

Over 50% of farmers state they have difficulty hearing the television or a phone ringing. Preventing this type of damage by wearing \$35 earmuffs is a cheap investment compared to the cost of hearing aids which start at around \$2000!

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Spray it safe

Using pesticides or any other agricultural or horticultural chemical is a serious business. **It is essential that you read, understand and follow the directions on the label.** Use of chemicals in ways other than specified on the label is illegal and it can result in prosecution and fines.

Exposure to some agricultural and horticultural chemicals can result in health problems. The most common way in which exposure occurs is by absorption through the skin.

This is most likely when handling the concentrated chemical or when applying the chemicals while not wearing appropriate protective equipment and clothing.

A full range of the appropriate protective clothing and safety equipment must be available and must be used whenever chemicals are handled.

The level of protection required will vary according to the product being used and it will be specified on the product label or on the material safety data sheet (MSDS).



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Spray it safe .. USING FARM CHEMICALS SAFELY

PURCHASING

When purchasing chemicals for your farm, you should:

- buy the safest chemical that can do the job. Seek guidance from your supplier.
- make sure you receive the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). The supplier must provide you with the MSDS on request. The MSDS will detail all you need to know about the chemical, such as directions for use, storage and emergency procedures.
- ensure all containers are correctly labelled.

Spray it safe .. USING FARM CHEMICALS SAFELY

SAFE USE

To make sure chemicals are used safely on your farm you should:

- ensure anyone using chemicals has been trained/instructed in how to do so safely
- ensure anyone using chemicals wears the personal protective equipment (safety footwear, eye protection, gloves, respirator, etc) specified in the MSDS
- determine if the user needs to undertake specific training for some chemicals – seek guidance from your supplier
- ensure you have the first aid facilities to deal with splashes and other incidents

- **HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND DANGEROUS GOODS**

Some chemicals are classified as hazardous substances or dangerous goods. Information that covers the notification, signage, purchasing, storage and use of hazardous substances and dangerous goods should be obtained from your supplier.

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Spray it safe

The **minimum** protective clothing recommended for handling and using agricultural chemicals is:

- long sleeved shirt
- overalls or long trousers - reusable or disposable - with the trouser legs worn outside the boots
- waterproof gloves - without material linings
- water resistant boots
- washable hat
- goggles, face shields or respirator masks should be worn when there is any danger of splash or inhalation
- contaminated clothing should be changed daily or whenever it becomes damp with chemicals and should be washed separately from other laundry



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FARM MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

Equipment used on farms can pose serious dangers to operators and people near-by.

The following information on machinery is a guide to help you use your machinery safely.

- Ensure that you and your employees use machinery for the purpose it was designed for, and within its specified capacity limits.
- Before using any machinery make sure all safety features, such as guards and warning devices, are in place, clearly visible, and are operative.
- Ensure all operators have been adequately trained/instructed to use the machinery safely.
- Some equipment used on farms, such as an excavator, requires the operator to obtain a certificate of competency.

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FARM MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT....

- Make sure your farm workers are supervised until they are competent (ie. they have the knowledge and skills to carry out a specific task acquired through training, qualification or experience, or a combination of them.)
- Make sure users of farm machinery have been provided with, and understand, all available information on the machinery – special consideration should be given to employees with low literacy levels or those from non-English speaking backgrounds. The first source of information on your farm machinery is the operator's manual.
- Check that a competent person has carried out maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Some types of hazardous plant may require registration and certification with Regulators. Registrable plant includes boilers, pressure vessels, mobile cranes and dangerous goods such as bulk fuel vessels.

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Don't get run over by your own tractor

Many deaths and injuries result from the operator being run over by his or her own tractor and this is something that can be avoided by installing a safe access platform.

Run overs are usually the result of unsafe work procedures. These include;

- mounting and dismounting tractors whilst they are moving,
- carrying passengers on tractors,
- starting the tractor whilst standing in front of the rear wheel or
- failing to set the park brake (or having the park brake fail) when dismounting the tractor.

These practices are considered 'high risk'.

An engineering control that can reduce the risk of run over is available.



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It is illegal to carry a passenger on any tractor, which is not fitted with an approved passenger seat. Fitment of a passenger sheet must comply with Section Eight of the Rural Industries (Machine Safety) Regulation, 1972.

The alarming number of farmers, family members and farm employees dying each year as a result of tractor accidents can be greatly reduced by targeting the three main tractor safety risks: -

- roll over,
- run over and
- entanglement.

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Tractor Roll Over Protection Structure (ROPS)

Apart from the pain and the suffering from the loss of loved ones or friends in fatal incidents, there are many more roll-overs resulting in serious injury that have left farming families in ruin because a member of the family has been permanently maimed.

Preventing death and serious injury from tractor roll-over can be achieved by protecting the operator. The single and most effective way is by fitting a structure around the operator called a Roll-Over Protective Structure (ROPS).

All tractors weighing between 560kg and 15,000kg are required by law to have a ROPS fitted

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Power Take Offs

A tractor power take-off (PTO) stub shaft, coupling and implement drive shaft are very dangerous if used and not correctly guarded.

Each year people are killed or seriously injured in incidents involving tractor PTOs where the person's clothing, hair, jewellery, hands or limbs get caught and become wrapped around an unguarded PTO shaft or coupling

Injury data indicates that up to a quarter of severe tractor related incidents have been caused by being hit, or becoming entangled in moving machinery such as the rotating drive-line between the tractor and the implement.

The risks associated with PTO usage appear higher for females living or working on a farm. Factors like long hair blown or loose clothing coming into contact with unguarded PTO shafts or couplings is a common cause of entanglement.

The PTO safety program provides a dollar for dollar rebate subsidy, up to the value of \$200, to NSW farmers who purchase PTO guarding for their tractors and equipment.



Prevention measures

Employers who own a tractor should ensure that:

- the tractor is not in use unless the tractor PTO stub shaft, drive shaft and universal coupling are adequately guarded as outlined above under the Designers etc section.
- the tractor manufacturer's instructions and warnings for safe operation and maintenance of the tractor (including maintenance of the guards) are strictly followed.
- all operators of the tractor are provided with necessary training for the safe operation of the tractor, and PTO guards are checked prior to use and operators are trained to report any missing or damaged guards and other safety devices.
- when the tractor is operating with implement, it is not turned too sharply as this could cause the lower links or tractor tyre to foul the PTO drive shaft. The PTO drive should always be disengaged when making sharp turns.
- if there is any blockage from PTO-driven implement, the clearing of the blockage only occurs when the power drive has been disengaged, the tractor engine has stopped, all controls are in neutral, the hand brake is applied, the engine key is removed and all movements have ceased

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Powerline safety

Key safety tips include:

- Designating a spotter to each work team to guide machinery movements.
- Installing prominent signage under powerlines and on poles.
- Being aware of the height of machinery and that 5.5 metre is the minimum statutory clearance for powerlines (this is the minimum distance that powerlines are installed above the ground surface).



Powerline safety... Key safety tips continued:

The following safe working distances between workers, their equipment and powerlines should be maintained as a minimum.

Powerlines with voltages up to 132,000 volts	eg. Low voltage and high voltage distribution and subtransmission lines, usually on poles.	3 metres
Between 132,000 and 330,000 volts	eg. Subtransmission and transmission lines on either poles or towers.	6 metres
More than 330,000 volts	eg. Transmission lines, usually on towers.	8 metres

Powerline safety... Key safety tips continued:

- Ensuring machinery is lowered to the transport position when relocating from paddock to paddock and farm to farm.
- Monitoring weather conditions, as powerlines can sag in extreme heat and sway in strong winds. Powerlines can also be difficult to see at dawn or dusk.

If farm machinery does come in contact with overhead powerlines, or an arc occurs between machinery and overhead powerlines, the following actions are recommended:

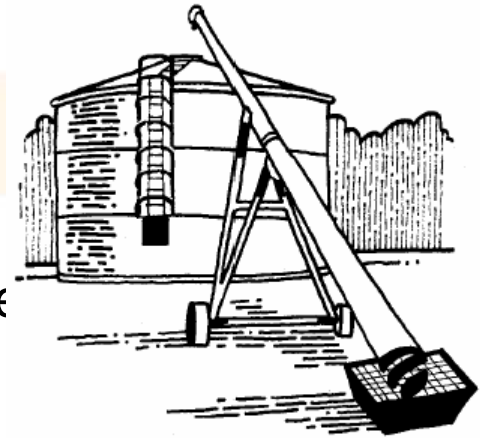
- Contact your local energy supplier immediately
- If possible, drive the machinery well clear of the powerlines.
- Remain in the vehicle until power has been isolated and the powerlines removed.
- Only leave the machinery if there is immediate danger, such as a fire.
- If you do have to leave the vehicle, jump well clear, avoiding contact with the ground and machinery at the same time, hopping until you are at least eight metres away. It is important to hop to avoid electrocution from step voltage created when you step away from the vehicle and both feet are in contact with the ground at the same time.
- **Be aware** that the tyres of a vehicle involved in such an incident also have the potential to explode up to 24 hours later.

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Silo Safety

1. Locate Silos Safely

- Locate silos clear of houses, overhead power lines, children and water holes.



2. Avoid Dangerous Atmospheres

- The atmosphere in confined spaces on farms such as in silos can be dangerous.
- The atmosphere in a silo when dusty (eg, one being filled) may be explosive particularly if the humidity is low. **Do not smoke.**
- High temperatures in silos can also result in heat stress for people entering them. Do the job from outside if possible.
- Wear respiratory equipment when appropriate.

Silo Safety

3. Safe Fumigation

- Ventilate the space. Read the instructions on the fumigant container to find the venting period required before entering the silo.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Open phosphine containers in the open air, not in the shed or silo.
- Hold container away from face and stand upwind.
- Wear protective clothing and equipment.
- Have a person stand by while fumigating.
- Place tablets in the silo using a tube from the roof.
- Clearly mark all areas under fumigation with **'DANGER UNDER FUMIGATION'** signs.

Silo Safety

4. Avoid Suffocation by Grain

- Don't enter a silo unless you have to.
- If you enter a silo, have somebody stand by in case of difficulties.
- NEVER enter a silo before turning off the auger and ensuring that no-one can start filling or emptying augers while someone is inside.
- Stay on the ladder above the level of compacted or bridged grain while dislodging it.
- Ensure external ladders start above child height.

Silo Safety

5. Check Machinery

- Guard auger drive train (belts, pulleys, drive shafts) and the rotating screw flighting.
- Locate mobile augers on firm, preferably flat ground, and operate at shallow (less than 45°) angles to prevent them overbalancing.
- Lower mobile augers when transporting.
- Never start augers hidden from your view before checking the area is clear of people.

Silo Safety

6. Use Electricity Safely

- Use only qualified trades people to do electrical work.
- Maintain protective covers and installation.
- Switch off power before working on equipment.
- Protect auger motors and switchgear from rain.
- Avoid overhead powerlines when using long mobile augers.

Silo Safety

7. Avoid Structural Failures

- Every stored material has different characteristics - a silo designed to store one product may not be suitable for another. Care must be exercised whenever a new product is stored in a silo.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions precisely for preparation of the concrete pad.
- Use the 'bedding-in' procedure when filling by drawing off a rubbish bin full of grain. Keep people well clear whenever filling or emptying, especially children.
- Seemingly simple change to a silo can drastically alter its structural stability. An engineer should be consulted before modifying a silo. Equipment which is attached to a silo can impose dangerous loads.

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Silo Safety

8. Avoid Falls

- Provide protection in the form of a simple roof platform together with ladder cages where required.
- Provide a wire mesh guard which is hinged permanently on all external openings above the maximum level of grain.
- Use a safety harness.



Silo Safety

9. Know Safety Procedures

- If trapped by grain, don't panic - the grain will pack tighter. Shield your face and chest with arms and clothing to create space for breathing.
- Plan your escape. Always have a person watch from the outside. The watcher should have clear instructions about what to do in an emergency. The first instruction is '**Do not follow me in**'.
- If only one person is on stand-by and cannot pull you out without entering, help must be called. Then someone may enter wearing a breathing apparatus and a lifeline, and one or more people outside can help to pull you out.
- If someone else is trapped in a grain silo, empty the bin by opening any side outlet, then cut flaps in the cone or walls all around the base using power tools.

Silo Safety

SILOS can be dangerous. Follow safe work practices and ensure the health and safety of yourself and others.

Do you:

- take precautions against dangerous atmospheres within the silo?
- use protective equipment such as safety harnesses?
- make sure that no-one can enter the silo and be suffocated?
- service all machinery regularly and maintain it in good working order?
- check whether the silo is structurally able to store different products before you fill it?

Manual handling

Reduce manual load handling

- Plan ahead. Consider safe work methods, ie lifting, carrying, holding, lowering, pushing and pulling.
- Eliminate unnecessary tasks.
- Avoid double handling.
- Use mechanical aids.
- Carry out a safety check first.



Lighten the load

- Where possible choose light weight materials.
- Break up loads into smaller loads, eg smaller fertiliser bags.
- Half fill containers.
- Get help and share the load.

Manual handling

Reduce bending, twisting, reaching movements

- Rearrange work layout.
- Keep tools and equipment within easy reach.
- Build benches to waist height.
- Keep frequently used items at waist height.

Follow a safe procedure

- Plan the handling.
- Clear the way.
- Wear appropriate protective clothing.

Manual handling

Use preferred handling techniques

- keep the load as close to the body as possible during all lifting and carrying procedures
- avoid lifting
- with the back fully bent
- from a position where it is necessary to twist or bend sideways to place the load
- after prolonged periods with the back bent
- after a prolonged period of exposure to whole body vibration as in driving a vehicle.

Put down a load this way:

Use leg muscles and lower the load by bending your knees - **Not Your BACK.**

Manual handling

Avoid muscle fatigue

- Warm-up first.
- Take frequent breaks.
- Change jobs to use different muscles.
- Gradually get used to the job.
- Use tractors with a well-sprung seat. With good support for the back
- Consider your posture.

Consider mechanical aids

- Special trolleys to move and tilt drums.
- Post drivers for fencing.
- Small mobile hoists or forklifts.
- Mobile ramps on skids that can be towed behind a truck or utility for use in loading and unloading.
- Tools such as crow bars, trolleys, hooks and jacks.

Manual handling

THINK “BACK”: Reduce the risks of manual handling and the cost of back injury.

Do you:

- always use safe handling procedures?
- where possible consider using mechanical aids, eg trolleys or forklifts?
- minimise handling, twisting and reaching movements?

USE YOUR KNEES - NOT YOUR BACK!

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All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

Causes of injury and death

Some of the ways in which an ATV can cause injury and death include:

- The ATV is carrying a passenger.
- Legs (of either rider or passenger) get caught by the tyres.
- The ATV back-flips or rolls over while negotiating a steep incline.
- The ATV hits an obstacle and rolls over.
- The rider is hit by a low-hanging obstacle, such as a branch.
- Unevenly distributed or poorly secured loads tip the ATV when in motion.
- The rider is unfamiliar with the controls.
- The rider doesn't know how to ride the ATV properly -for example, they aren't aware of the need to shift body weight to maintain the bike's centre of gravity.
- The rider is driving recklessly, such as trying to perform stunts.
- The ATV is poorly maintained, leading to mechanical failure of vital safety equipment such as brakes.



Know your ATV

Inexperienced ATV riders assume that the three (or four) wheels offer better stability than a two-wheeled motorbike. This isn't the case - ATVs are prone to tipping and rolling. Reduce your risk of injury and death by knowing exactly what your ATV can and can't do. Suggestions include:

- Read the manual and pay particular attention to the safety instructions.
- Know the warning labels and observe them.
- Some ATV manufacturers provide a safety video with each purchase. Make sure that you and every other person who will be operating the ATV watches the video and understands the safety recommendations.
- Ask your ATV supplier for recommendations on ATV training courses. Alternatively, TAFE and agricultural colleges run ATV training courses. Make sure you and every other person who will be operating the ATV is properly trained.
- Practice riding the ATV until you feel confident - only then put the vehicle to its intended use.

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Safety suggestions - the ATV

Suggestions include:

- Use the ATV strictly according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Leave all safety guards in place.
- If your ATV needs accessories, make sure to use the manufacturer's equipment or their recommendations.
- Fit accessories properly. Don't 'customise' the fit or you may compromise the ATV's stability.
- Strictly observe the load ratings.
- Keep the ATV in good mechanical repair.
- Perform a safety check each time before you ride.

Safety suggestions - riders

Suggestions include:

- Treat the ATV as a piece of work machinery, not as a recreational vehicle. Don't attempt any type of 'stunt' riding, like performing 'wheelies'.
- Don't allow untrained people to ride the ATV.
- Caution children about the dangers and make sure they keep well clear of the ATV at all times.
- Never allow passengers on the ATV. A person on the back limits the rider's ability to shift weight appropriately.
- Always wear appropriate protective gear -for example, helmet (wear goggles if your helmet doesn't have a visor), boots, gloves, heavy-duty trousers and jacket.
- Ride at an appropriate speed at all times.
- Slow down before turning a corner or braking.

Safety suggestions - terrain

Suggestions include:

- Whenever possible, ride on familiar tracks. Even then, think carefully about the position of any drains or other obstacles, the weather conditions, the nature of the surface and how fast you may be required to ride.
- Ride cautiously when riding the ATV on bitumen roads, as the smooth road surface may compromise control.
- Remember that liquids within a spray tank can cause sudden shifts to your ATV's centre of gravity when riding over uneven terrain. Take extra care.
- Assess the terrain carefully before choosing to ride on it. Steep slopes, particularly if the dirt is loose or wet, can cause the ATV to roll over.
- Watch the ground ahead for potential hazards. Riding into or over rocks, pipes or any other obstacle can cause an accident.
- If you're not confident that you can negotiate a particular stretch of terrain, don't attempt it -go another way or turn around.

Things to remember

- The all terrain vehicle (ATV) is the number one cause of death on Australian farms.
- Make sure you and every other person who will be operating the ATV is properly trained.
- Reduce your risk of injury and death by familiarising yourself thoroughly with the capabilities of your ATV.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Harmful fumes or low oxygen atmospheres are common in many confined spaces on farms.

There is also the risk of suffocation inside a silo if stored grain or fertiliser collapses.

The safest approach with any confined space is to avoid going in there. In many instances, tasks such as cleaning can be achieved using other means, such as external pumps.

If it is necessary for someone to go inside the confined space, consider hiring a contractor who is trained and experienced. If you have no other option but to go inside the confined space yourself, it is vital to take all the safety precautions you can.

Consult local OH&S Authorities first for valuable and potentially life saving advice.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Sewers and manure pits

Gases such as methane and hydrogen sulphide can build up inside manure pits and displace the oxygen.

Safety suggestions include:

- Cover pits securely and post warning signs.
- Include natural or mechanical ventilation in the pit's design.
- Try to devise ways to clean the pit from the outside.
- Keep ignition sources well away from the pit, as methane and hydrogen sulphide are flammable.
- If you must go inside the pit, wear self-contained breathing apparatus or an air line respirator.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Silos

A person can be buried and asphyxiated by falling feed, grain or fertiliser inside a silo.

Safety suggestions include:

- Use a drier feed so you don't have to unblock the auger discharge, or find ways to mix the feed so that it won't crust.
- Clear blockages from the outside through a hatch.
- Fit vibration systems or turbulence valves.
- Prevent moisture getting in and caking the feed by fitting and maintaining seals.
- If you have to go inside, use a safety line or harness and switch off mechanical devices like the auger.
- Don't work alone.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Underground tunnels and wells

Children can be attracted to wells as interesting places to play.

Safety suggestions include:

- Cover or fence entrances securely and post warning signs.
- Warn children of the dangers.
- Make wells and underground tunnels strictly out-of-bounds as play areas.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Water tanks

Keep out of the tank by finding other ways to empty, repair and clean it, including:

- Put a lid on the tank so animals and debris can't fall in
- Fit an external pump or an automated self-cleaning system
- Install taps in above ground tanks
- Try cleaning out the tank from the outside, using high pressure hoses
- Don't use petrol-powered pumps inside the tank
- Hire a professional.

The danger of **CONFINED SPACES**

Rescue attempts can be fatal

Our first impulse when seeing a loved one in danger is to help them. However, entering a confined space with dangerous fumes or low oxygen levels can overcome and kill the rescuers too. Never attempt a rescue unless you have a proper rescue plan and the right safety equipment, such as breathing apparatus. Otherwise, call on emergency services personnel, who are professionally trained and equipped.

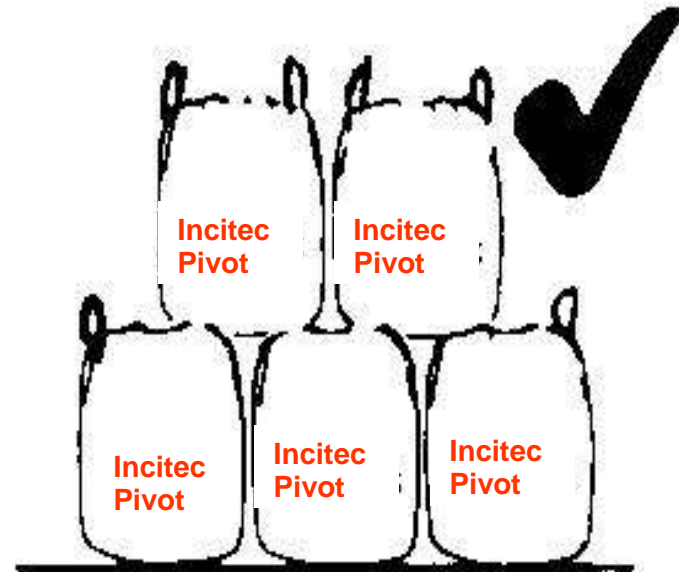
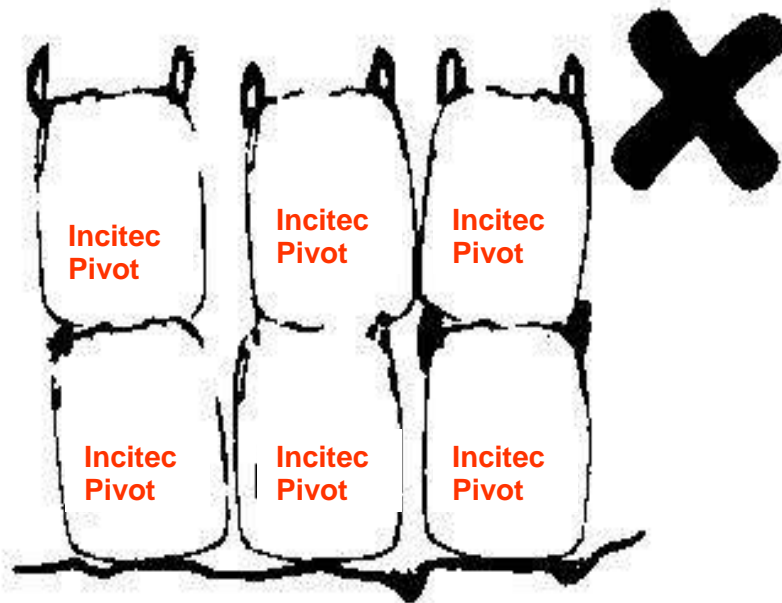
Things to remember

- Enclosed or partly enclosed structures on farms such as silos or manure pits can suffocate a person with vapours, dust or low oxygen levels.
- Without a proper rescue plan and safety equipment, rescuers coming to the aid of someone who has collapsed inside a confined space are usually overcome too.
- The safest approach with any confined space is to avoid going in there.

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BULK BAG HANDLING

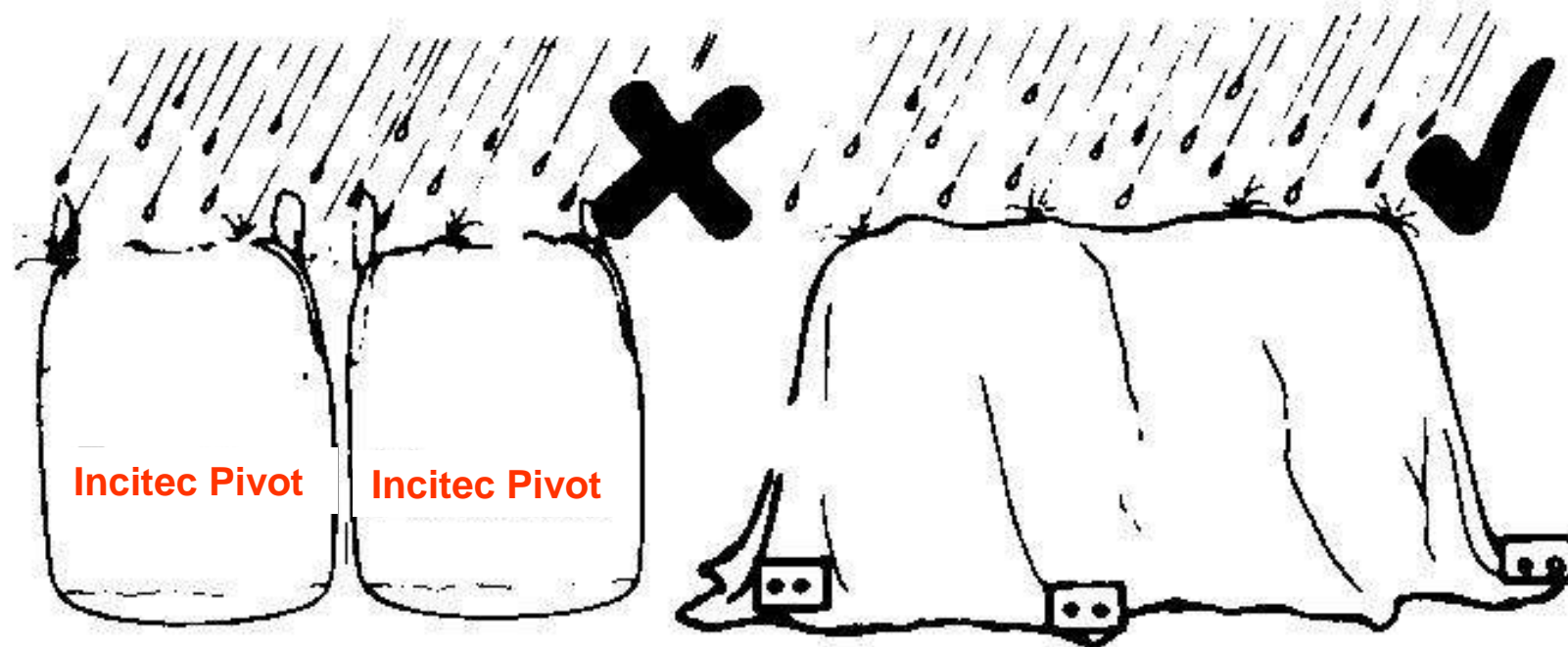
Storage



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BULK BAG HANDLING

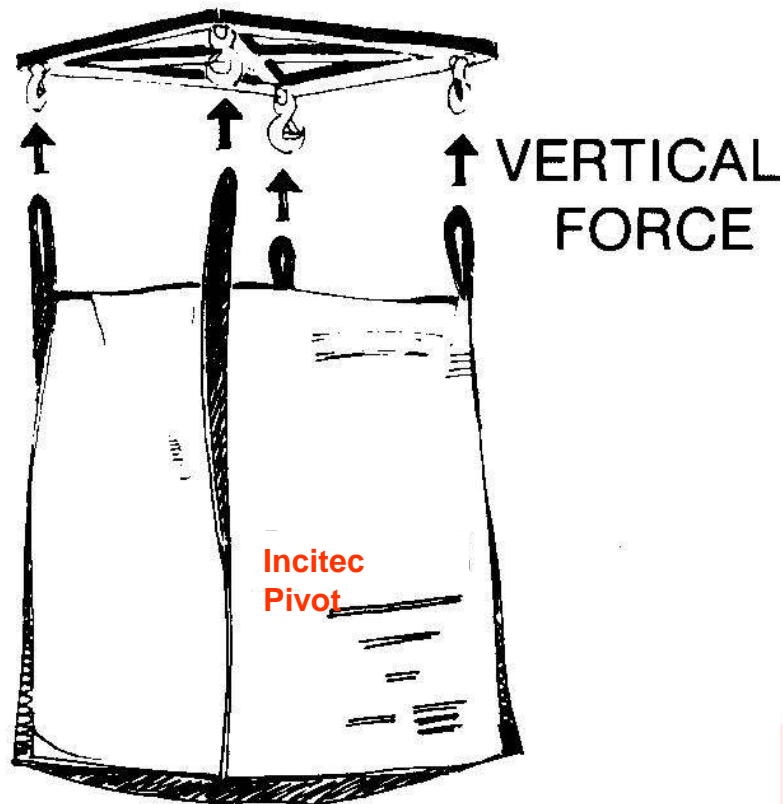
Storage



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BULK BAG HANDLING

LIFTING



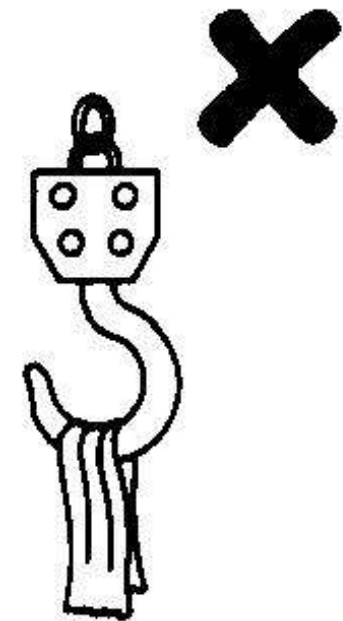
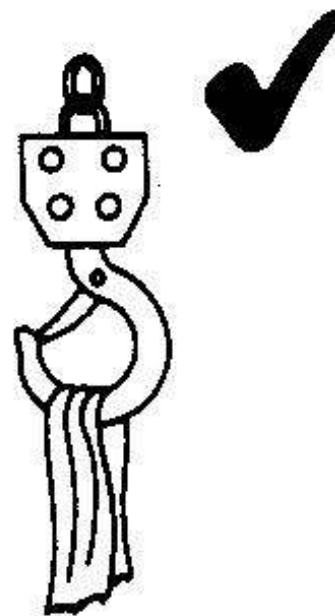
Always attach the lifting device to all of the lifting points on the bag - ensuring the load is evenly spread.

Lifting straps must be in a vertical position when bag is being lifted.

BULK BAG HANDLING

LIFTING

Ensure lifting hooks, shackles and associated devices have no sharp edges.



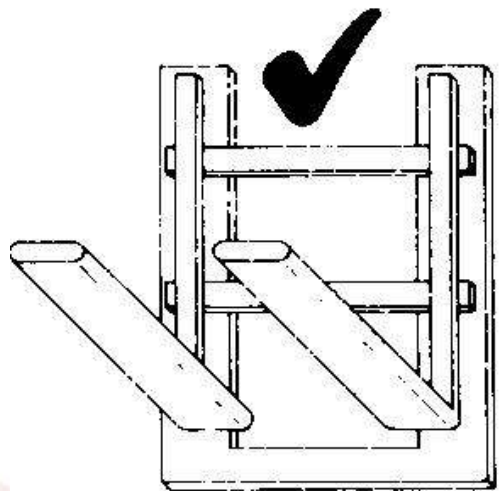
ALWAYS USE 4 CLOSED (Locked) HOOKS

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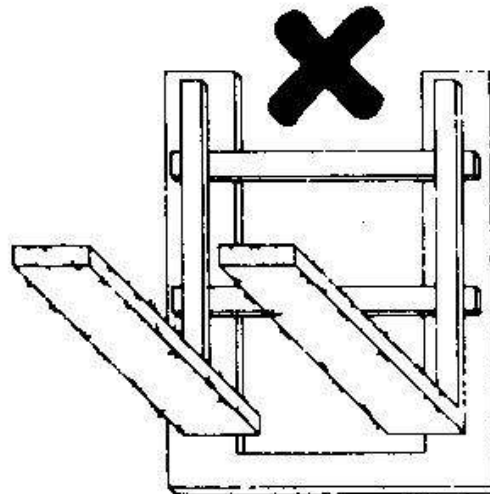
BULK BAG HANDLING

WHEN USING A FORKLIFT

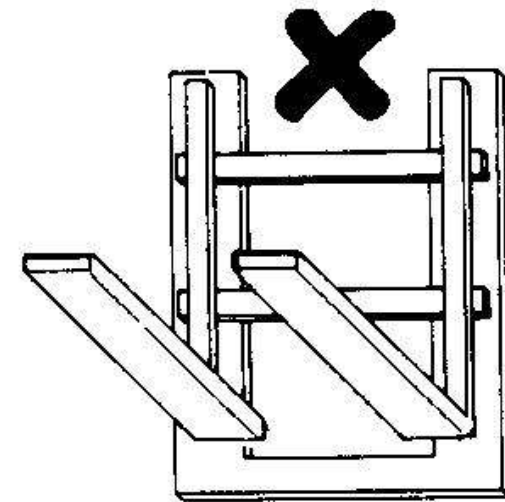
Avoid forks with rough or square edges



ROUNDED



ROUGH



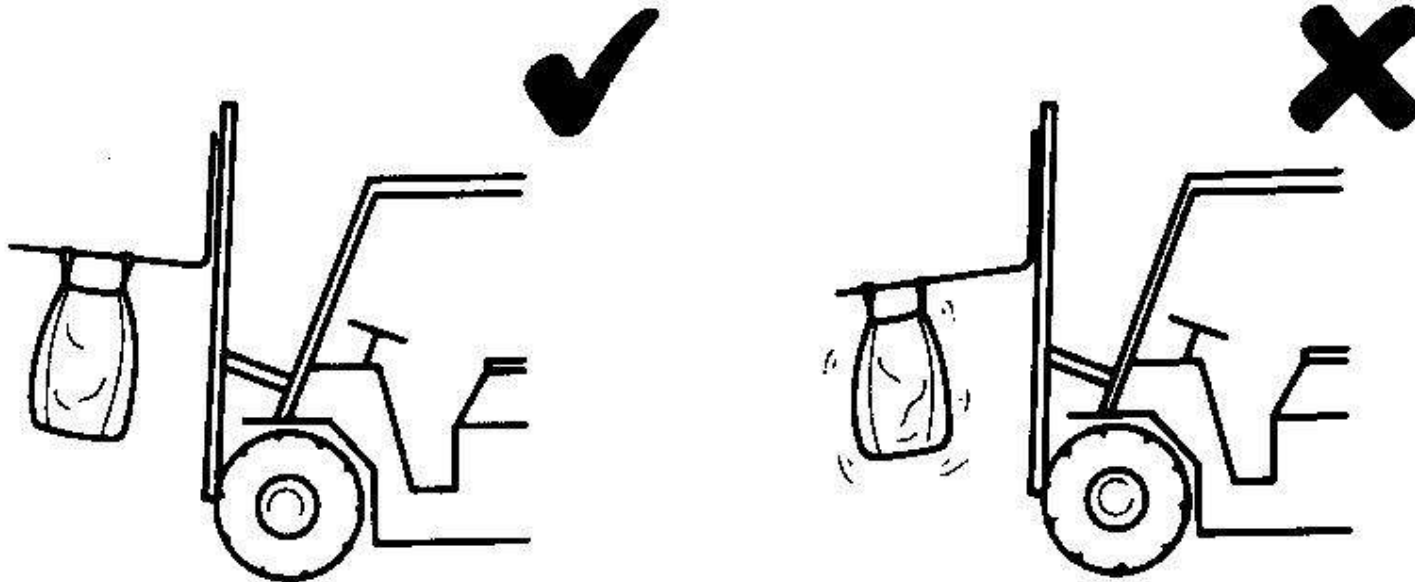
SQUARE

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BULK BAG HANDLING

WHEN USING A FORKLIFT

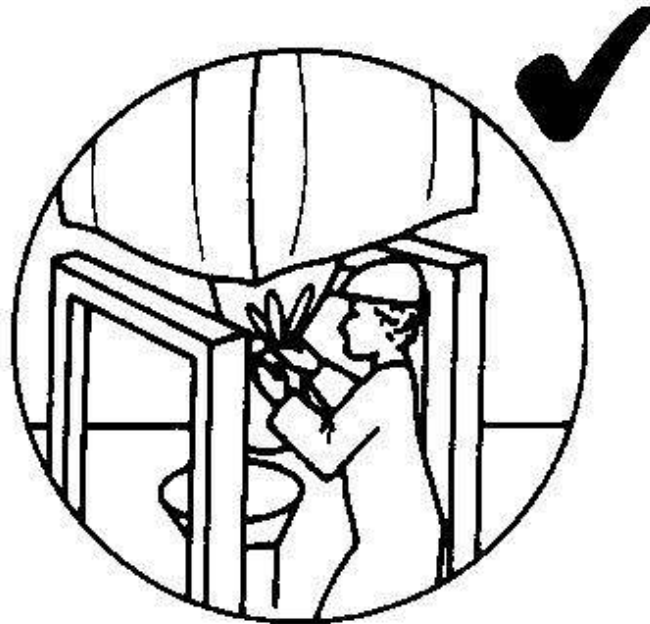
Avoid tilting forks forward



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BULK BAG HANDLING

DO NOT STAND DIRECTLY UNDER THE BAG



ALWAYS USE A SAFETY FRAME

KEEPING WORKERS SAFE

OHS INDUCTION

When you hire a new employee to work on your farm you need to provide them with the instruction, training and information they need to be able to do the work they are to perform. It should **not be assumed** that new employees have any prior knowledge, training or experience.

An OHS induction should be carried out for each new employee. Induction for new workers will help make your farm a safer and more productive workplace.

The induction, training and information should provide:

- who is responsible for health and safety and the arrangements for reporting hazards
- health and safety procedures relevant to the employee, including the use and maintenance of risk control measures
- how employees can access health and safety information.

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KEEPING WORKERS SAFE

TRAINING

To be both productive and safe on your farm, employees should be trained to be able to confidently and safely carry out their work (competent).

A competent person is a person who has acquired through training, qualification or experience, or a combination of them, the knowledge and skills to carry out a specific task.

Younger workers should be given extra safety consideration as they have little or no experience in a working environment.

The type of training required will vary depending on what your employees will be doing eg. Unloading trucks, operating machinery such as tractors and ATVs, spraying chemicals etc.

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SUPERVISION

As farms can be dangerous places, it is important that as an employer, you ensure that your employees are following your safe work procedures.

To determine the type and extent of supervision that is necessary, take into consideration the competence, experience and age of each employee.

Supervision must be provided by a competent person.

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND FIRST AID

Everyone on a farm should be aware of what to do in an emergency. You should have a response procedure in place to deal with accidents and emergencies.

In setting up an emergency plan for your farm, you should consider the following:

- who is trained in first aid
- communication arrangements with employees for work carried out in areas isolated by time or distance
- knowing who does what and in what order when an emergency occurs

KEEPING WORKERS SAFE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND FIRST AID (contd:)

- emergency services contact details and information such as:
 - directions from the nearest town
 - description of entrance to your property
 - significant landmarks
 - GPS location
- how to provide for the safe and rapid evacuation of the injured person to the nearest hospital or medical centre.

First aid kits must be centrally located and positioned so that they are visible and easily accessible by everyone in the workplace. They should be checked regularly to make sure anything used has been replaced with new stock.

Regularly check fire extinguishers and hoses to ensure they are in working order. It may be necessary to undertake training in the use of fire extinguishers, depending on the type of chemicals you store on your farm.

While Incitec Pivot has taken all reasonable care in preparing this presentation, the information given is a summary only and does not purport to be comprehensive or exhaustive and should not be relied upon as a substitute for seeking professional advice in relation to your own safety.

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