

FARM SAFETY SELF-ASSESSMENT

You know that looking after yourself, your family, workers and visitors to your farm is the right thing to do. It's also essential for keeping your farm running.

Some of the highest risks on the farm are around:

- quad bikes
- tractors, and related implements and attachments
- occupational disease
- return to work and injury management
- child safety
- working with sheep and beef cattle.

This tool will help you identify where you're doing well and where you need to improve.

Where you tick in the:

- **red zone**, act now as your people and your farm are at high risk. Look at the practices listed in the green zone for steps you can take
- **orange zone**, you've still got work to do to improve your health and safety practices
- **green zone**, well done - your practices seem safe and productive. Continue to monitor them and stay vigilant.

If you need help on risks that are not covered in this tool you can call us on 13 10 50 and ask for a free advice visit to your farm. You can also refer to the 'further information' section at the end of this document for more information.

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This column identifies the issues/ activities taking place.

This column lists practices that are inefficient and have a high risk of injury. They require immediate attention.

This column lists practices that could have productivity improvements and pose some safety risks. Modifications need to be made.

This column lists practices which reduce risk, lower injury and are highly productive. They should be monitored and reviewed.

QUAD BIKES			
Vehicle selection.	Quad bikes used on unsuitable terrain - eg undulating, rocky, slippery, hard surfaces.		The farmer ensures the correct vehicle is used considering the task, terrain, loads and attachment.
Rider training.	Riders not trained.	Riders have received some training, instruction and supervision on operating quad bikes.	Riders have completed an accredited rider training course and have been assessed as competent. All riders are provided with site-based instruction/supervision and their competency assessed prior to use. Operator's manual/video is used for training purposes on site and is readily accessible on the farm.
Helmets.	Helmets not worn by riders.	Helmets are provided to riders.	Helmets approved in accordance with AS/NZS 1698 (motorbike helmets) are worn when operating a quad bike.
Safe use.	No safe operating procedures for quad bike use. No farm tracks or speed limits specified. No restrictions on areas where quad bikes can operate. Quad bikes carrying passengers when not designed for this purpose. Quad bikes not secured to prevent unauthorised use - eg from children and farm visitors.	Areas that quad bikes can be used are specified.	Operating procedures incorporate the safety advice of the manufacturer/supplier. Quad bike safe operating procedures are adhered to. Keys are removed when not in use to prevent unauthorised use of quad bikes. Children under the age of 16 must not use an adult-sized quad bike. Farm tracks are regularly maintained. Speed limits are specified. Areas specified for quad bike use are regularly checked for a safe operating environment.
Attachments, loads and towing.	Carrying unsuitable loads - eg not securely attached, overweight, liquid loads not baffled. Tasks being undertaken that are not suitable and appropriate for quad bikes. Non-compatible attachments are used on quad bikes.	Only compatible after-market accessories are used with quad bikes. Consideration is given to more appropriate vehicle for work tasks.	Operate quad bikes only with stable, safe and secure loads. Consideration has been given to fitting an operator protective device (OPD).
Maintenance.	Quad bikes not regularly inspected and maintained.	Riders encouraged to report problems with quad bikes - eg brakes, tyres etc. Regular inspection and maintenance is carried out on quad bikes.	Quad bike safe operating procedures are used including pre-operational checks, and are reviewed regularly. Quad bikes are maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

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<p>Emergency response.</p>	<p>No communication system for working alone for quad bike riders. No emergency plan.</p>	<p>Quad bike riders maintain regular contact when working alone or in remote locations.</p>	<p>An effective communication system is implemented for riders working alone or in remote areas – eg regular check-in, GPS, location, personal locator beacon (PLB). Emergency plans include quad bike incidents and how to contact emergency services. Adequate, accessible first aid kit and trained first aid personnel on site.</p>
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Comments:

TRACTORS AND RELATED IMPLEMENTS AND ATTACHMENTS

<p>Tractors fitted with approved roll over protective structures (ROPS) are operated on the farm.</p>	<p>Tractors without ROPS fitted are being used.</p>	<p>Tractors are fitted with a non-approved ROPS.</p>	<p>All tractors are fitted with an approved ROPS compliant with AS 1636 for agricultural wheeled tractors or AS 2294 for earth moving tractors. ROPS are regularly inspected and maintained in good condition.</p>
<p>All attachments used are fitted with power take off (PTO) guards.</p>	<p>Power take off (PTO) operated attachments are being used without appropriate guarding. Damaged PTO guards are being used with attachments.</p>	<p>Power take off (PTO) guarded but not regularly inspected and maintained.</p>	<p>All tractors are fitted with a spline shaft guard and implements fitted with an appropriate power take off (PTO) guard. Ensure that all PTO shafts are fitted with compatible guarding prior to use. PTO guards are regularly inspected and maintained, including replacement of worn or damaged guards.</p>
<p>All tractors are fitted with side access steps.</p>	<p>No access steps on tractors. Steps are fitted that do not meet manufacturer's specifications. Damaged or modified access steps. No grab-rails or hand-holds to assist with step access. Workers ride on the steps while the tractor is moving.</p>	<p>Tractor still has the manufacturer's original steps in place, however the steps are in poor condition and not maintained. Steps are too narrow and do not have a non-slip surface. Grab-rails and hand-holds are poorly designed and located. Build-up of dirt, mud and debris in steps.</p>	<p>Side access steps are an adequate width for easy access. Steps are appropriately spaced. Steps are in good condition and not damaged. Steps are non-slip and kept clean. Pre-operational checks are conducted on the steps prior to use. Grab-rails and hand-holds are fit for purpose. Workers are prohibited from riding on the steps while the tractor is moving.</p>
<p>All tractors and related implements and attachments are appropriately maintained.</p>	<p>No system for routine or reactive maintenance on tractors and related implements and attachments. No pre-operational checks conducted. Tractor and related attachments and implements are worn or damaged particularly three-point linkage pins or guards.</p>	<p>Ad-hoc maintenance is conducted as required. Informal pre-operational checks are conducted prior to using machinery.</p>	<p>A program for inspection and maintenance of tractors and related implements and attachments by a competent person is in place. Guards are regularly inspected and maintained as per manufacturer's specifications. Formal pre-operational checks are conducted prior to use – eg written checklist. Attachments are stored correctly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.</p>

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<p>Tractor operation to control/avoid/prevent rollover and run over risks.</p>	<p>Passengers ride on the steps of the tractor while it is in motion.</p> <p>Passengers ride on the wheel guards while the tractor is in motion.</p> <p>Passengers ride on attachments such as carry-alls or tines while the tractor is in motion.</p> <p>Tractor is started from the ground.</p> <p>Workers mount and dismount the tractor whilst it is in motion.</p> <p>No induction or training provided to workers using tractors.</p> <p>Safe working load of tractors are regularly exceeded or the business owner and workers do not know what the safe working load is.</p> <p>Manual quick hitches are used without locking pins.</p>	<p>Manual quick hitches are used appropriately.</p>	<p>Passengers are not permitted on any tractor that is not designed for passengers.</p> <p>Tractor is fitted with a safety switch to prevent activating it from the ground or whilst in gear.</p> <p>Tractors are fitted with seatbelts that are used by the driver, especially when driving over rocky terrain.</p> <p>Semi-automatic or automatic quick hitches are used on attachments.</p> <p>All workers driving the tractor are trained and competent prior to first use.</p> <p>Tractors are stationary when mounting and/or dismounting.</p> <p>Keys are removed from tractor and locked away to prevent inadvertent access.</p> <p>Emergency plans include machinery accidents and how to contact emergency services.</p> <p>Adequate, accessible first aid kit and trained first aid personnel on site.</p> <p>Jockey wheels are fitted to hold attachments in place.</p> <p>The tractor operator checks that bystanders, in particular children, are clear before starting and moving the tractor.</p>
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Comments:

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OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE			
<p>Sun exposure.</p>	<p>No shade provided in outdoor work areas. Wide-brimmed hats not provided to workers. Sunscreen not provided to workers. Rest breaks from work activities not provided in shade. Loose clothing - long sleeves and long pants not worn. Sunglasses not provided or worn. Clean drinking water not provided or available.</p>	<p>Shade provided outdoors for fixed work areas - eg over the crush. Sunscreen, wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses are provided to and worn by workers. Rest breaks infrequently taken, and not always in shaded area. Workers educated about skin checks for early detection of skin cancer.</p>	<p>Working hours are organised so that outdoor work is conducted in the early morning or late afternoon. Protective clothing is worn, such as long sleeves and trousers. No workers are permitted to work outdoors without correct PPE. PPE such as sunscreen, hats and sunglasses are regularly reviewed and replaced. Respite periods form part of the work procedures in outdoor work. Program in place for regular skin checks for skin cancers. Adequate drinking water is available to prevent dehydration.</p>
<p>Noise exposure.</p>	<p>Farm machinery is old and not maintained. Noisy machinery is situated in an area where workers are exposed. No hearing protection provided to workers where there is excessive noise - eg firearms use, chainsaw use and portable equipment.</p>	<p>Noisy equipment has been relocated away from work areas. Signs are displayed advising workers to wear hearing protection in noise zones. Workers are trained in wearing hearing protection correctly. Workers are trained in care and maintenance of hearing protection equipment. The farmer has provided suitable hearing protection equipment where required.</p>	<p>Noisy equipment has been replaced with quieter equipment where possible. All tractors have enclosed cabins. Routine equipment maintenance on vehicles and machinery includes inspecting noise-insulating materials. Task rotation is in place for noise-producing activities. Training program includes the use and maintenance of hearing protection equipment. Supervisors ensure that hearing protection is worn where required.</p>
<p>Zoonoses.</p>	<p>Build-up of manure and waste in pen and yard areas. No systems in place to manage risks associated with contracting known animal related diseases - eg Q fever, Hendra Virus. No hand washing or decontamination facilities provided. No personal protective equipment provided. No education on risks of zoonotic diseases associated with working with animals. PPE not cleaned or maintained correctly.</p>	<p>Pen and yard areas are cleaned regularly to remove build-up of manure and waste. High risk areas of possible exposure have been identified. Personal protective equipment provided to workers when cleaning out pens and yards. PPE provided to workers involved in veterinary treatments involving exposure to bodily fluids - eg gloves, masks, waterproof boots and overalls. Hand washing facilities made accessible.</p>	<p>A program is in place for screening, vaccination and/or treatment of livestock, dogs and humans where practicable. High risk areas have been identified and appropriately controlled - eg appropriate ventilation and dust suppression systems in kill areas. All workers wash their hands before and after handling animals and before eating, drinking and smoking. Decontamination facilities and products provided for cleaning PPE and equipment after use.</p>

Comments:

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CHILD SAFETY ON FARMS			
<p>Effective prevention of farming risks to children.</p>	<p>No assessment carried out on the risks to children at the farm.</p> <p>No designated safe play areas for children.</p> <p>Children on farm are not adequately supervised.</p> <p>People bringing children to the workplace and not providing appropriate supervision.</p> <p>Fences, gates and latching are not child-proof.</p> <p>No-one on the farm has received first aid training including child resuscitation.</p>	<p>Assessment carried out on the risks to children at the farm, but not addressed.</p> <p>Visitors and their children are advised of the danger areas or 'no-go' zones on the farm.</p> <p>A fenced-off play area has been provided for children.</p>	<p>All children on farms are appropriately supervised.</p> <p>Emergency plans include how to contact emergency services in the event of an incident.</p> <p>Adequate, accessible first aid kit and trained first aid personnel including child resuscitation, on site.</p> <p>Electrical outlets are situated up high and include an RCD.</p> <p>Children are taught farm safety from an early age.</p> <p>Safe behaviour is modeled by the farmer and other workers.</p>
<p>Farm vehicles, machinery.</p>	<p>Farm machinery not secured to prevent unauthorised use - eg keys left in ignition.</p> <p>Children ride on tractors, quad bikes, motorbikes and other farm machinery.</p> <p>Children are not kept away from tractors and other farm machinery when they are not in use.</p> <p>No appropriate child restraints or seat belts fitted to vehicles.</p>		<p>Children in vehicles wear appropriate restraints such as seat-belts and are prohibited from riding in the back of utes and trailers.</p> <p>Children are appropriately trained and supervised when learning to ride horses and wear appropriate PPE.</p> <p>All workshops and machinery are locked to prevent unauthorised access.</p> <p>Keys are removed from machinery when not in use.</p> <p>Children under 16 years are prohibited from riding quad bikes, tractors or other machinery.</p> <p>Children are adequately supervised by an adult when learning to ride two-wheeled motorcycles and wear appropriate PPE.</p>
<p>Hazardous chemicals.</p>	<p>Chemicals are not secured.</p>		<p>Chemical stores are locked to prevent unauthorised access.</p>
<p>Large animals.</p>	<p>Children are not kept away from large animals.</p>		
<p>Water sources and stored grain facilities.</p>	<p>Children are not kept away from water hazards.</p> <p>Stored grain facilities are accessible.</p>	<p>Water hazards are identified.</p>	<p>All tanks, wells and troughs are fitted with lids or strong mesh.</p> <p>Windmill water-tanks are covered and access ladders removed or blocked.</p> <p>Access to grain silos is prevented - eg ladder lock-outs, removal of bottom section of ladder.</p> <p>Unused ditches are filled in.</p> <p>Water hazards including swimming pools, effluent ponds, channels or dams near the house are securely fenced.</p>

Comments:

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WORKERS COMPENSATION/RECOVERY AT WORK*			
<p>Notification of a worker's injury, injury management and recover at work.</p>	<p>Workers do not know how to report a workplace injury.</p> <p>Workers do not know who the workers compensation insurer is.</p> <p>Early and regular contact is not made with the injured worker.</p> <p>The workplace does not have a written return to work program.</p>	<p>The workers know to report injuries to their employer.</p> <p>The employer is aware of the need to report injuries to their insurer but not aware of timeframes.</p>	<p>Employer reports all work-related injuries to the insurer within 48 hours.</p> <p>Employer makes early and regular contact with their injured worker(s).</p> <p>Employer demonstrates an understanding of the value of early and regular contact with the worker – eg keeps parties connected, shows that the employer cares, sets expectations of 'when' the worker will return to work (RTW) rather than 'if'.</p> <p>Employer demonstrates an understanding of the value of providing suitable work that is good for the worker – eg work is therapeutic and promotes recovery, work improves quality of life and wellbeing, good for business – reduces lost work time and maintains productivity, reduces direct and indirect costs.</p> <p>Employer (category 1**) has an employed or engaged RTW coordinator.</p> <p>There is a current written RTW program.</p> <p>RTW program is in line with the guidelines for workplace RTW programs (category 1** employers).</p> <p>Standard RTW program (category 2*** employers).</p> <p>Employer demonstrates an understanding of the value of planning a worker's RTW – eg setting clear objectives to work towards, clearly articulating responsibilities, accountabilities and timeframes – keeps intervention focused on work.</p>
<p>Limited availability of suitable alternative duties.</p>	<p>Injured workers do not return to work until they are fit for full duties.</p>		<p>Employer has suitable work available for injured workers.</p> <p>A summary of the RTW program is displayed in the workplace.</p> <p><i>If you get injured at work</i> poster (catalogue no. WC00022.1) is displayed in the workplace with workers compensation insurer details completed.</p>

Comments:

* The following information is relevant to farmers with employees/workers or a 'workers compensation policy holder'.

** A category 1 employer is an employer:

- with a basic tariff premium exceeding \$50,000 per annum, or
- who is self-insured, or
- who is insured by a specialised insurer, and who employs more than 20 workers.

*** A category 2 employer is any employer who is not a category 1 employer.

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WORKING WITH LIVESTOCK - SHEEP AND BEEF CATTLE			
<p>Handling and movement - sheep.</p>	<p>Dogs not used. Lack of training provided to workers.</p>	<p>Sheep handled infrequently. Reliance on past experience of workers.</p>	<p>Sheep have regular contact with humans through a planned flock management program from a young age (other than stud rams). Provision of training to workers on sheep handling techniques. The farmer uses low-stress livestock handling techniques such as point of balance and flight distance, as well as dogs, to move sheep. Use of trained dogs by stockmen/workers.</p>
<p>Pen and yard design - sheep.</p>	<p>Infrastructure is not designed for smooth flow of stock and not maintained. Pen and yards are not fit for purpose - eg makeshift yards, tie wire, bolts protruding. No shelter over cradle or mulesing areas. Poor electrical installations, exposed wires, no inspections of leads or fittings.</p>	<p>Corners or jam points are minimised. Yards designed to be gated off for the size of the flock. Poor line of sight for sheep in races. Leads and fittings inspected prior to use - eg insulation intact, leads on ground.</p>	<p>Yards are fit for the size of the mob and designed to facilitate smooth movement of sheep, resulting in less muscular stress for the worker. Wide, straight races are provided, assisting in sheep movement so they can see the rest of their mob. When operating drafting gates, stockmen/workers are positioned to allow for the free-flow of sheep. Wide gates are used where possible, to maintain good sheep flow. Pens and yards are routinely maintained and in good condition. Ground surfaces are clean and free of trip hazards. No projections such as nails, wire, Cobb & Co hitches or bolts that may injure workers or stock. Leads tested and tagged regularly, RCD fitted to power board, external outlets suitable for outdoor use.</p>
<p>Inexperienced and young farm workers are appropriately inducted, trained and supervised - sheep.</p>	<p>No assessment of workers' skill level and previous experience working with sheep. No induction or training of workers carried out. Workers are untrained and inexperienced. Workers unsupervised and working alone. No assessment of skill levels of workers.</p>	<p>General farm induction given on commencement. Basic farm training given to workers. Workers are only given verbal instruction on how to handle sheep.</p>	<p>Workers are assessed as competent to undertake the work task prior to work commencing. Workers are provided with recognised industry induction and site specific induction on procedures and any hazard areas on site. Training given to workers includes sheep handling techniques and sheep behaviour. Supervision by a suitably qualified/experienced person provided to new workers while handling sheep. New or young workers provided with access to experienced stockmen/workers as mentors.</p>

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<p>Loading/ unloading livestock – sheep.</p>	<p>Loading ramp is not maintained and in poor condition – eg slippery surface, broken/rotten slats, collapsing earth ramps etc.</p> <p>No forcing area incorporated into ramp design.</p> <p>No external walkway incorporated into loading ramp.</p> <p>Workers climbing onto stock crates without fall protection.</p> <p>No safe system of work for workers that work alone – eg no communication systems.</p> <p>No system to minimise the risks associated with working at night.</p>	<p>Access ramp is maintained in good order, free of damage and/or protrusions – eg wire, nails, bolts etc.</p> <p>Stock transport vehicles are fitted with safe access systems – eg harness points or access platforms for accessing stock crates during loading/unloading of animals.</p> <p>Procedure(s) and communication system(s) in place for people required to work alone – eg two-way radio system, satellite phone, and regular location/welfare check-in requirement.</p> <p>Some procedures to minimise people/contract drivers working alone whilst loading or unloading stock.</p>	<p>Loading facilities include a forcing area and loading ramp for loading sheep onto vehicles and these facilities are sound and suitable for the purpose intended.</p> <p>Loading ramp has solid sides to prevent the sheep from becoming distracted when being loaded onto vehicles.</p> <p>Loading ramp has an operator walkway adjacent to the ramp for anything above first deck loading that is fitted with handrails and mid-rails.</p> <p>Drivers and other workers are prohibited from climbing up the side of the stock crates or walking on the top of crates unless a harness is used or a walkway is fitted.</p> <p>Workers' access to the stock crates when loading and unloading sheep is minimised.</p> <p>Adequate lighting is provided at the unloading/loading area if work is performed outside of daylight hours.</p> <p>Persons do not work alone.</p>
<p>Handling and movement – cattle.</p>	<p>Cattle are handled by people who are inexperienced or not competent, and without appropriate supervision.</p> <p>Cattle are not given time to settle in the yard before being handled again.</p> <p>Dogs are used to herd cattle in the yard.</p> <p>Races are too wide or too narrow, requiring more handling by the workers.</p> <p>Cattle are handled through the rails, increasing the likelihood of hand and arm injuries.</p> <p>Veterinary treatments are conducted without adequate restraint of the animal.</p> <p>Cattle with increased risk of aggressive behaviour are not identified.</p>	<p>Workers are provided with basic training and supervision when handling cattle.</p> <p>Workers are not familiar with cattle handling practices such as point of balance and flight movement.</p> <p>Cattle are allowed to settle after being yarded prior to handling.</p> <p>Dogs are used for mustering cattle and not used in yards.</p> <p>Cattle are not disbudded.</p>	<p>Calves are disbudded early to prevent horn growth.</p> <p>Cattle are taught to be mustered and worked through the yards at weaning.</p> <p>Workers apply safe cattle handling practices such as point of balance and flight movement.</p> <p>Fractious and difficult cattle are identified as early as possible and culled.</p> <p>Experienced stock handlers are present when cattle are handled.</p> <p>Tasks are arranged around the principles of animal behaviour – eg calming the cattle by moving them slowly, moving them after they have been fed, during early morning or late afternoon, allowing them to settle after mustering and prior to doing any further work with them.</p> <p>If veterinary treatments are administered in an uncontrolled environment, such as in the paddock or open pen, safe escape routes have been identified.</p>

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<p>Adopt a best practice approach to pen and yard design – cattle.</p>	<p>Infrastructure is not designed for smooth flow of stock and not maintained.</p> <p>Pen and yards are not fit for purpose – eg makeshift yards, tie wire, bolts protruding.</p> <p>Gates are poorly located – eg lower than the height of the yard.</p> <p>Gates do not swing or lock properly.</p> <p>Gate locks are hard to operate and not functioning correctly.</p> <p>No escape points or refuges provided for workers.</p> <p>Yard panels and crush are not fixed in place.</p> <p>No system for containing animals in the crush during veterinary work – eg no head bail.</p> <p>Crush – ratchet doesn't move easily, not maintained.</p> <p>No shelter over crush.</p>	<p>Work is undertaken from the outside of the yards where possible, in particular in races and forcing areas.</p> <p>No projections such as nails, wire, Cobb & Co hitches or bolts that may injure workers.</p> <p>Escape routes are provided for workers.</p> <p>Workers are instructed not to put arms, legs or head through the rails of crushes.</p> <p>Crush ratchet system is well-maintained and functioning.</p> <p>Shade cloth provided over crush is sufficient for conducting veterinary and tag work.</p>	<p>Cattle yards are fit for purpose and adequate for the number of cattle to be handled (yard capacity is ideal – up to 2/3 of total yard area).</p> <p>Forcing pen and race are built so that they assist in the smooth movement of cattle – eg providing clear space ahead and minimising distractions to eliminate the need for workers to enter the race.</p> <p>Pens and yards are routinely maintained and in good condition.</p> <p>All yard panels are securely fixed in place.</p> <p>Races are wide enough for the cattle to walk through, but narrow enough to prevent them turning around.</p> <p>Yard and race include escape routes for workers and refuge – eg man gates or sufficient height under the bottom rail of the yard fencing to allow a worker to drop and roll out of the yards in an emergency – eg a 300mm gap.</p> <p>Gates are mounted securely and swing clear of the ground and can be secured in an open or closed position.</p> <p>Inward swinging gates on forcing areas and races, outward swinging entry gates.</p> <p>Gates on the escape routes are lockable, clearly marked and easily accessible.</p> <p>All gates are fitted with slam-shut type locks, are well maintained, mounted at an appropriate height, and designed not to create pinch or crush points.</p> <p>Ground surfaces are clean and free of trip hazards.</p> <p>Crush has been properly secured to the ground.</p> <p>Positive head-bail locking system installed on the crush.</p> <p>Crush ratchet is pneumatic or hydraulic powered.</p> <p>Crush is fitted with specific veterinary access.</p> <p>Crush area is covered to reduce exposure of workers to weather conditions – eg sun and rain.</p>
<p>Inexperienced and young farm workers are appropriately inducted, trained and supervised – cattle.</p>	<p>No assessment of workers' skill level and previous experience working with cattle.</p> <p>No induction or training of workers carried out.</p> <p>Workers are untrained and inexperienced.</p> <p>Inexperienced workers required to carry out mustering work.</p> <p>Inexperienced workers required to handle bulls.</p> <p>Workers unsupervised and working alone.</p>	<p>General farm induction given on commencement.</p> <p>Basic farm training given to workers.</p> <p>Workers are given verbal instruction only on how to handle cattle.</p> <p>Workers provided with communication devices when working in isolation or remote locations.</p>	<p>Workers are assessed as competent to undertake the work task prior to work commencing.</p> <p>Workers are provided with recognised industry induction on procedures and any hazard areas on site.</p> <p>Training given to workers includes cattle handling, position and movement techniques and cattle behaviour.</p> <p>Supervision provided to new workers while handling cattle.</p> <p>New or young workers provided with access to experienced stockmen/ workers as mentors when working with cattle.</p>

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<p>Loading/ unloading livestock - cattle.</p>	<p>Loading ramp is not maintained and in poor condition - eg slippery surface, broken/rotten slats, collapsing earth ramps etc.</p> <p>No forcing area incorporated into ramp design.</p> <p>No external walkway incorporated into loading ramp.</p> <p>Workers climbing onto stock crates without fall protection.</p> <p>No safe system of work for workers that work alone - eg no communication systems.</p> <p>No system to minimise the risks associated with working at night.</p>	<p>Access ramp is maintained in good order, free of damage and/or protrusions - eg wire, nails, bolts etc.</p> <p>Stock transport vehicles are fitted with safe access systems - eg harness points or access platforms for accessing stock crates during loading/unloading of animals.</p> <p>Procedure(s) and communication system(s) in place for people required to work alone - eg two-way radio system, satellite phone, and regular location/welfare check-in requirement.</p> <p>Some procedures to minimise people/contract drivers working alone whilst loading or unloading stock.</p>	<p>Loading facilities include a forcing area and loading ramp for loading cattle onto vehicles and these facilities are sound and suitable for the purpose intended.</p> <p>Surface of loading area is non-slip such as concrete.</p> <p>Loading ramp has solid sides to prevent the cattle from becoming distracted when being loaded onto vehicles.</p> <p>Loading ramp has an operator walkway adjacent to the ramp for anything above first deck loading that is fitted with handrails and mid-rails.</p> <p>Drivers and other workers are prohibited from climbing up the side of the stock crates or walking on the top of crates unless a harness is used or a walkway is fitted.</p> <p>Workers' access to the stock crates when loading and unloading cattle is minimised.</p> <p>Adequate lighting is provided at the unloading/loading area if work is performed outside of daylight hours.</p> <p>Workers do not work alone.</p>
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Comments:

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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further general information on farm health and safety call SafeWork NSW on 13 10 50, visit our website at www.safework.nsw.gov.au, or the NSW Farmers Association. For specific information relating to the topics in this guide, please see below:

Quad bikes:

1. WHS Regulation Clauses 39, 42-43, 206-207, 213-215.
2. Draft Code of Practice – *Managing the risks of plant in rural workplaces*.
3. SafeWork NSW – *Farm vehicle pre-purchase checklist*.
4. Code of Practice – *First aid in the workplace*.
5. WorkSafe Victoria – *Quad bikes on farms – a handbook for workplaces*.
6. SafeWork NSW – *Quad bike safety: What you need to know poster*.

Tractors and related implements and attachments:

1. WHS Regulation Clauses 42-43, 208-209, 213-216.
2. Australian Standard 1636 – Tractors – Rollover protective structures.
3. Australian Standard 2294 – Earth moving machinery – Protective structures.
4. Draft Code of Practice – *Managing the risks of plant in rural workplaces*.
5. SafeWork NSW – Guidance: *Fact Sheet Farm machinery*.
6. SafeWork NSW – Guidance: *Slashers: a guide on health and safety standards*.

Occupational disease:

1. WHS Regulation Clauses 34-39, 40, 44, 56-58.
2. Safe Work Australia – Code of Practice – *Managing the work environment and facilities*.
3. SafeWork NSW – Guidance: *Fact Sheet Pressure on farmers*.
4. WorkSafe Victoria – Guidance: *Working in heat*.
5. Code of Practice – *Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work*.
6. NSW Health – *Communicable diseases Fact Sheet Q fever*.
7. NSW Department of Primary Industries – Prime facts zoonoses – *Animal diseases transmissible to humans*.

Child safety on farms:

1. WHS Regulation Clauses 34-39, 42-43.
2. SafeWork NSW – Guidance: *Fact Sheet Child safety on farms*.
3. Farmsafe Australia.
4. Kidsafe New South Wales.
5. Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety.
6. SafeWork NSW – Code of Practice – *First aid in the workplace*.

Workers Compensation/recovery at work (all SafeWork NSW):

1. *Guidelines for workplace return to work programs* (catalogue no. WC02872).
2. *Standard return to work program* (catalogue no. WC00004).
3. *If you get injured at work poster* (catalogue no. WC00022.1).
4. *What to do if there is an injury*.
5. *Recover at work financial incentives and support programs for employers* (catalogue no. WC01540).
6. *Return to work assist program for micro employers: Guidelines* (catalogue no. WC04884).
7. *When a worker is injured – A workers compensation guide for employers* (catalogue no. WC01742).

Working with livestock – sheep and beef cattle:

1. SafeWork NSW – Guidance: *Fact sheet Working with livestock*.
2. Farmsafe Australia.
3. Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety.
4. NSW Department of Primary Industries.
5. SafeWork NSW – *Farming*.

Disclaimer

This publication may contain information about the regulation and enforcement of work health and safety in NSW. It may include some of your obligations under some of the legislation that SafeWork NSW administers. To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate legislation.

Information on the latest laws can be checked by visiting the NSW legislation website www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

This publication does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law as it applies to particular problems or to individuals or as a substitute for legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice if you need assistance on the application of the law to your situation.

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