

# MAINTAINING SAFETY ON THE FARM

Farming is a cherished way of life for many Canadian farm families from coast to coast. It is also a profession with one of the highest risks of on-the-job injury and death. Between 1990-2003, 1,547 people died from agriculture injuries in Canada. Agriculture ranks as the third most hazardous industry in Canada with respect to rates of fatal injuries. Most of these deaths could have been prevented. A disciplined and

the second most common contributing factor. Trying to save time and miscommunication between workers were also common factors. (Source: Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program)

The Canada Safety Council recommends the following tips to farm owners to help reduce injuries

and use personal protective equipment.

- Conduct routine hazard checks on equipment, buildings and grounds. Correct problems immediately and avoid hazards that can't be eliminated.

- Instruct employees and family workers on the proper way to do their jobs and to take care of their health, both on and off the job.

- Be prepared for each activity. Keep fit, respect your limitations and seek proper care for health problems.

- Return equipment and articles to their proper stor-



ongoing diligence is imperative to further reduce this needless suffering and loss to both the individuals involved and the Canadian economy.

Most disabling injuries happen between September and November and are caused by unsafe use of equipment or material handling practices. Fatigue is

and fatalities:

- Make accident prevention a management goal. Realize that you are responsible for safety and health instruction.

- Reduce your risk of injury and illness with prevention. Read and follow instructions in operator's manuals and product labels

age spots.

- Build safety into farm structures by making them inaccessible.

National Farm Safety Week is March 14 to 20, 2007. This year's theme is "Farm safety: The reward is worth the effort."

# Farm leaders ratify Canadian Farm Bill

Farm leaders from across Canada ratified the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's Canadian Farm Bill proposal at the annual meeting of the CFA in Ottawa March 2.

"The Canadian Farm Bill was developed by farmers from the grassroots up, through the member organizations of the CFA. Today Canadian farm leaders, democratically elected to represent the interests of Canadian producers, approved the ideas in the Farm Bill," said Bob Friesen, CFA president. "CFA will therefore continue to push the Farm Bill as our contribution to the discussions on the next generation of agriculture policy."

On Thursday, in a series of panel discussions, CFA delegates examined the question of agriculture policy development, what structures exist currently in Canada for the development of policy, and how the process could be improved. Representatives from agri-food industry stakeholders all along the value chain offered their perspectives and international representatives presented ideas and

policy development models from their own countries.

CFA delegates also welcomed Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Chuck Strahl, who addressed the meeting Thursday. The minister said he and his department are hearing broad support for CFA's ideas in agriculture policy consultations going on across the country right now.

Elections for the CFA executive were also held at the annual meeting. Bob Friesen will serve another term as president and Laurent Pellerin as first vice president. Ron Bonnett, former president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, was elected as the second vice president.

"CFA has taken a big step in developing farm policy that identifies a toolbox of programs designed to restore profitability to Canadian farmers," said Bonnett. "I am honoured to have been given the responsibility to work with the rest of the leadership team to push to get these programs accepted and implemented."

## LEADING CAUSES OF AGRICULTURAL INJURIES 1990-2000

Fatal: 1,256 (includes all fatalities on farms, not just work related)  
Rate: 13.4/100,000/year

1. Rollovers (including non-tractor): 242 (19.3% of total fatalities)
2. Runovers: 207 (16.5%)
3. Entanglements: 108 (8.6%)
4. Traffic collisions involving agricultural equipment or animals: 97 (7.7%)
5. Animal related: 72 (5.7%)
6. Pinned or struck by machine: 71 (5.7%)
7. Struck by object (not machine related): 63 (5.0%)
8. Drownings: 48 (3.8%)
9. Falls (not machine related): 43 (3.4%)
10. Contact with toxic substances or environments: 38 (3.0%)

Hospitalized: 14,987  
Rate: 177.9/100,000/year

## OFA

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In the short term, at least, this focus will help Ontario by buoying our corn prices.

There is a notable shift in the basic approach of the draft Farm Bill. The U.S. has recognized their programs are not trade compliant and will likely not be acceptable under any future negotiated WTO agreement. They are preparing for this in shifting their domestic subsidy programs to conservation programs.

In effect, the proposals attempt to "legalize" spending under the anticipated new trade rules. We will not see a marked decline in U.S. spending, but we will see the money spent in different ways. OFA and its partners at CFA, while pleased to see the WTO negotiations on again, realize Canada has much to do if we're going to achieve success.

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**SEIZED AND FORFEITED ITEMS FROM CBSA**

Under instructions received from Canada Border Services Agency, we have scheduled a Public Auction for Seized and Forfeited Items on Saturday, March 10th at 10:00 A.M. (Preview 9:00 A.M.) at 13400 Desro Drive, Tecumseh (corner E.C. Row Expressway and Manning Rd.)

**Approx. 235 Lots - Items to include: Various Designer Clothing:** jeans, skirts, shirts, shoes, sweaters (adult and children). **Jewellery:** watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, chains (some 22K). Selection of colognes, cell phones/chargers. **Guitar:** Epiphone (electric w/bag and stand) and Vox valvetronic amp. Set of tires and rims, flat screen 15" monitor, Bang and Olusen stereo unit (value \$11,471.00), heated dog mats and bird bath warmers. As requested 3 or 4 items from this sale will be sold subject to CBSA approval.

**Terms:** Cash, Visa, M/C or Interac.  
**Note:** Other items may be added to this sale.

For further information please call:  
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**MARCH 10TH AT 9:30 A.M.**

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