

I-CASH Hall of Fame Awards

Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, (I-CASH) based in the UI College of Public Health, has named Teresa Mowrer from Guthrie Center, and Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc., as recipients of its 2008 Hall of Fame Awards.

Mowrer organizes the Guthrie County Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™ program, which provides farm safety education for nearly 250 children each year.



I-CASH Hall of Fame recipient Teresa Mowrer is pictured with Senator Chuck Grassley to her right, Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey, and I-CASH Director Kelley Donham to her left.



Pioneer Hi-Bred International Director of Risk Management, Jim O'Hare, (center) with Senator Bob Dvorsky, and I-CASH Director Kelley Donham.

Pioneer has supported programs such as the 1987 "Agriculture at Risk" conference, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day, Certified Safe Farms, the AgriSafe Network, and the Center for International Rural and Environmental Health.

Mowrer and Pioneer were honored on Aug. 7 and 14, respectively, during the WOI-AM midday radio show, which aired live from the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines.

Again a Summer with Too Many Children Among Farm-related Deaths

by Wayne T. Sanderson and Murray D. Madsen

The rate of childhood injuries on our nation's farms has been declining. In 2006 the death rate for youth less than 20 years-old who live on, visit, or do hired work on farms was 10.5 injuries per 1000 farms, down from a rate that was 16.6 in 1998. However, injuries associated with farming, and on farms, continue. Between May and August this summer, at least eleven children died from traumatic farm-related injuries in the GPCAH 9-state region. These deaths occurred in a variety of ways (see table on page 3) and involved youth 1 through 16 years of age. If you know of others please contact us. These deaths were identified through surveillance of press clippings, which does not capture all the incidents that occur. Press clippings do, however, provide basic information about the kinds of incidents we are challenged to help prevent, such as child passengers on farm equipment.

Our colleagues at the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS) in Marshfield, WI, provide support and services for the health and safety of children living in rural areas and working or playing in agricultural environments, guidance for childhood injury prevention programs, support for intervention to protect children from agricultural hazards, and training of professionals on youth safety

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Caution Urged for Farmers Making Repairs

A recent news story about an Iowan pinned under a rotary cutter, caught the attention of Murray Madsen, associate director for the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health and trauma investigator for the Iowa Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation program. "It's time again to be reminded of the precautions of summer to be carried forward and practiced this fall, even in the rush of harvest," Madsen said. "Working under a raised rotary cutter held up by hydraulics or poor blocking is a hazard similar to working under a raised combine header without the cylinder locks in place. Farmers tempted to make quick repairs, relying on hydraulics or feeble supports with limited attention to proper blocking, are ignoring precautions intended to help save their lives. Proper lockouts and blocking are necessary in the shop, in the field, and on the road in between."

For proper blocking, experts recommend:

- Before initiating repairs, read the manufacturer's manual for safety precautions and procedures.
- Never rely solely on hydraulics.
- When provided, always use the manufacturer's safety device or features for securing equipment or components.
- Prepare the area to make sure the jack stand or blocks are secure. If the ground support is questionable, use bearing plates to increase the contact area with the ground.
- Never use a weak jack or stand, or a block that shows signs of rot, splits or bows, or is significantly lighter than other blocking being used.
- Observe blocking and jack stands during loading to make sure they remain solid, sturdy, and not overloaded.

Murray Madsen is the Associate Director of the GPCAH. He can be reached at 319/335-4481 (murray-madsen@uiowa.edu)

The GPCAH and I-CASH, both based in the UI College of Public Health, will host the **Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum on November 20-21 at the Radisson Quad City Hotel in Davenport, Iowa.** The conference provides updated information on agricultural health and safety and helps promote collaboration among researchers, practitioners, health-care professionals, agricultural producers and policy-makers. The meeting will include presentations on federal initiatives for health in rural areas; federal policy and rural economics; agricultural workforce issues; health-care reform in rural areas; and sessions on tractor safety and I-CASH's Certified Safe Farm Program. To register visit the UI Center for Conferences at www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/conferencereg/Login.aspx. Registration discounts are available to farmers and students.



The 2008 Agricultural Occupational Health Training was held June 9-13 in Iowa City, Iowa. Forty-two health care professionals from fourteen states, Singapore, and Sweden were trained in a variety of agricultural safety and health topics ranging from agricultural respiratory issues to zoonoses. The instructors delivered valuable information and their expertise was highly praised by the participants. The 2009 Iowa Agricultural Occupational Health Training will be held June 8-12, 2009. For information on training opportunities contact Kay Mohling at 319/335-4219 or visit www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash.



Farm Safety 4 Just Kids (FS4JK) has hired Rebecca Kerr, a sophomore at the University of Missouri as their new Missouri Outreach Coordinator. The position is generously sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM). Since 2006, ADM has funded Outreach Coordinators in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri. The program has also expanded into the states of Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, and Tennessee through other funding sources.



AgriSafe Network Continuing Education Opportunities have been announced for Fall/Winter 2008. Topics include skin diseases, immunizations, and dental health. The Elluminate sessions are produced by the AgriSafe Network in partnership with the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health. For information contact Stacy Jenkins at sjenkins@agrisafe.org. or visit www.agrisafe.org/education.



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Farm Families Alive & Well
Published 4/yr
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issues. NCCRAHS was recently awarded funding for another five years by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to continue and enhance their fine work.

GPCAH continues to collaborate with NCCRAHS in ways to help prevent injuries and deaths of children in our region. For example, Dr. Eileen Fisher is conducting a NCCRAHS-supported study of what motivates farm families to create a safe play environment on their farm. We also continue to collaborate with our regional partner Farm Safety 4 Just Kids to prevent health hazards, injuries, and fatalities to children and youth in rural areas. In addition to safety day camps and fall harvest safety days at the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS), we are working with NECAS to improve the ability of teenage drivers (and others) to safely interact with farm equipment on rural roads.

Attention to the safety of young children and older youth who live on, visit, and work on farms is not only important for the summer, it's also important before and after school, throughout the day, on weekends, and during planting and harvest times.

Deaths of Children Less Than 20 Years of Age on Farms in Nine-State Region - 2008*

AGE	STATE	CAUSE
14	SD	Machinery tipped over
2	MN	Run over by horse drawn manure spreader moved by teenage brother
10	MN	Rode small homemade wagon with empty egg cartons into path of car
8	NE	Crushed in a cattle chute incident
8	IA	Fell and run over while trying to get into tractor operated by father
12	KS	Spraying weeds using a four-wheeler which turned over on top of victim
2	IA	Run over by skid steer operated by father to backfill around house foundation
16	WI	Driver of car with 3 passengers rear-ended tractor
2	WI	Rider on small bicycle run over by pickup truck driven by 16 year-old relative
7	IA	Run over in hay field helping 10 year-old sister shuttle hay racks to baler
1	IA	Fell out of tractor and run over while mowing pasture with father

*The nine-state region includes: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

Dr. Wayne Sanderson directs the GPCAH, housed in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health of the College of Public Health. He can be reached at 319/335-4207 (wayne-sanderson@uiowa.edu). Murray Madsen is the Associate Director of the GPCAH. He can be reached at 319/335-4481 (murray-madsen@uiowa.edu)

calendar

October 19-23

The 6th International Symposium Public Health & the Agricultural Rural Ecosystem
Saskatoon, SK, Canada
<http://pharesymposium2008.usask.ca>

October 22-24

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association Summit & Annual General Meeting
Saskatoon, SK, Canada
www.casa-acsa.ca/english

October 25-29

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition
San Diego, CA
www.apha.org/meetings

November 10-13

National AgrAbility Workshop
Wichita, KS
www.agrabilityproject.org/events/workshop2008

November 11-13

Health and Safety in Western Agriculture - New Paths
Cle Elum, WA
<http://depts.washington.edu/pnash/2008conference>

November 20-21

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum
Davenport, IA
www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

Agricultural Occupational Health Training

June 8-12, 2009

Information and skills for health care professionals to function as practitioners in the prevention of agricultural occupational illnesses and injuries. For information contact Kay Mohling at 319/335-4219 or kay-mohling@uiowa.edu

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Farm Equipment (FE) – Motor Vehicle (MV) Crashes on Public Roads, 2007

	PDO ²	CRASHES ¹			INJURIES			DEATHS		
		Injury	Fatal	Total	FE	MV	Total	FE	MV	Total
Illinois DOT, Crash Info Section	172	66	4	242	20	70	90	1	3	4
Iowa DOT, Office of Traffic and Safety	108	82	5	195	36	75	111	2	3	5
Kansas DOT	68	21	1	90	10	20	30	1	0	1
Minnesota DOT	46	32	3	81	15	29	44	1	2	3
Missouri Hwy Patrol Public Info. and Ed. Div.	138	51	2	191	17	49	66	1	1	2
Nebraska Dept. of Roads, Hwy Safety	55	20	3	78	7	17	24	1	2	3
North Dakota DOT, Office of Traffic Safety	22	8	1	31	5	6	11	1	0	1
South Dakota Dept. of Public Safety, Accident Records	29	9	0	38	4	9	13	0	0	0
Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety	110	73	4	187	21	113	134	1	3	4

1) Data excludes non-collision events, collisions with parked motor vehicles, fixed objects, animals, trains, pedestrians, and various other categories of “first harmful events.” A “fatal” crash can include more than one fatality and an “Injury” crash can include more than one injury.

2) PDO refers to a crash in which there is “Property Damage Only.”

For more information contact Murray Madsen, murray-madsen@uiowa.edu or 319/335-4481

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