

Farm families ALIVE & Well

I-CASH | Iowa's Center for
Agricultural Safety and Health
The University of Iowa • Iowa State University
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Iowa Department of Public Health • Non-profit for Farm Health

News from Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)

Agricultural Medicine Training

Vol. 16, Issue 3 - June 2010

Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health initiated an educational outreach program in agricultural medicine in 1988. The growth of this program was advanced with funding from the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health Building Capacity Project (BC). BC aims to establish capacity in other regions to train health providers in agricultural medicine, and to establish new AgriSafe providers and clinics.

Agricultural Medicine: Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals was held June 7-11 in Iowa City, IA. Forty-four health care professionals from California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin attended the training. In addition to the didactic training, the participants toured Amana Farms, followed by a barbeque at the farm.

North Dakota will also host an Agricultural Medicine training in 2010. Session 1 will be held in Dickinson August 12-14, and Session 2 is scheduled for September 23-25 in Devils Lake.

Contact Kay Mohling at 319/335-4219 or kay-mohling@uiowa.edu for training information.



Allen Robison, extramural portfolio manager for agriculture, forestry, and fishing at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, tours Amana Farms with Rich Gassman (left), Amana Farms Crop Manager, as part of the Agricultural Medicine Training.

Celebrating the 20th year of I-CASH

by Kelley Donham, MS, DVM, DACVPM

Twenty years ago the legislative act creating Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH) came into effect. Before there was I-CASH, there was the Iowa Agricultural Health and Safety Service Network (IAHASSN). This was a program that I managed as a result of a small two-year grant from the Iowa Legislature to develop four model occupational health clinics for farmers (taken after the concept of farmer health care in Sweden and Finland). The third clinic that came into this program was the AgriSafe Clinic at Spencer Memorial Hospital. The success of IAHASSN, combined with the Iowa-based policy effort, Agriculture at Risk, created model legislation for agricultural health and safety programs for the nation. I-CASH and the

NIOSH Agricultural Health and Safety programs were a result.

Since 1990, coordinated efforts in agricultural health have dramatically changed. We now have an active I-CASH whose main mission is defined by our tag line, "Helping Farmers Stay Alive and Well."

Besides developing education and outreach interventions, and researching farm health issues, I-CASH serves as a hub to support and enhance communication and collaboration among the principal state entities making up I-CASH (The University of Iowa, Iowa State University,



Kelley J. Donham
MS, DVM, DACVPM

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I-CASH and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health will host the **Midwest Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health Forum** Nov. 17-18 at the Hotel Vetro, Iowa City, Iowa. The conference provides opportunities for researchers, practitioners, and agricultural producers to communicate on rural and agricultural needs, rural health care, and agricultural safety and health. Conference details can be found at www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash. **The deadline for abstract submission is July 7, 2010.**

I-CASH is accepting nominations for its ninth annual **Agricultural Safety and Health Hall of Fame Award**. The award recognizes Iowans who have made substantial and long-term contributions to the health and safety of the state's agricultural community. All Iowans or organizations in the public or private sector are eligible for the award. Nomination forms and additional award information are available at www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash, or contact Eileen Fisher, associate director of I-CASH, at 319/335-4224 or eileen-fisher@uiowa.edu. **The nomination deadline is July 15.**

Kristi Ruth and Trevor Hoff, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids (FS4JK) Youth Delegates, and Shari Burgus, FS4JK Education Director traveled to Washington, DC in April for the National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS) meeting. Organizations shared their work to protect youth, and youth worked on innovative ways to communicate safety messages to their peers. The NOYS group also went to the DC Newseum where the Oprah Show proclaimed the day *No Phone Zone Day*, and encouraged everyone to stop using cell phones while driving.

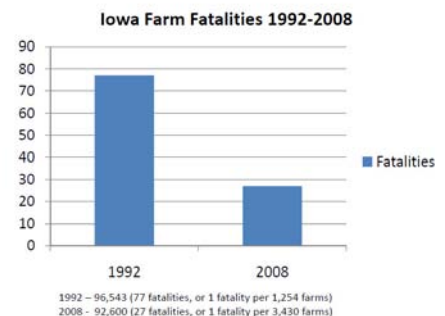
I-CASH Youth Grant Results

I-CASH has awarded funds to eight rural roadway safety projects for 2010 through its grant program aimed at decreasing the risk of illness and injury to young people living on Iowa farms or involved in production agriculture. Since its inception in 1990 I-CASH has designated funds each year for communities to develop farm injury prevention and education programs for Iowa youth. I-CASH is pleased to announce the following recipients for 2010: North Linn FFA (Troy Mills), Superior Lakers 4-H Club (Estherville), Washington County Extension (Washington), Grant 4-H (Ida Grove), Howard County 4-H (Cresco), Prairie City Champions 4-H (Prairie City), Town & Country Farm Safety 4 Just Kids (Ackley), and Spencer FFA (Spencer).

Iowa Department of Public Health, and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship), as well as non-profits in the region including the AgriSafe Network, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Agriwellness, Inc., the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, and Proteus.

Have we done our job? Are we keeping farm families alive and well?


Fatalities on Iowa Farms
(Current U.S. Agricultural Fatality Rates = 28/100,000)



In 1992, there were approximately 80 farm fatalities, a rate of about 70 per 100,000 farms. In 2008, there were approximately 30 farm fatalities, a rate of about 30 per 100,000 farms. When comparing this to national data, Iowa has moved ahead of the national trend. Although we are in the process of further analyzing this data, there is an apparent positive trend over this period of time.

So, let's celebrate the 20th anniversary, not just of I-CASH, but of those in the state and region who have put their life's effort in helping to keep farm families alive and well in agriculture. The celebration will be a banquet at the Midwest Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health Forum on November 17, 2010.

Kelley Donham, MS, DVM, DACVPM is the Director of I-CASH, he can be reached at 319/335-4190 (kelley-donham@uiowa.edu).



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Great Plains Projects

by Murray Madsen, GPCAH Associate Director

Four proposals submitted to the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) were chosen for pilot/feasibility project funding for fiscal year 2011.

Healthcare Provider Anticipatory Guidance on ATV Safety (University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics - C Jennissen) The long-term goals include improving methods for ATV injury surveillance and partnering with primary healthcare providers in rural communities to provide anticipatory guidance related to ATV safety. Specifically, the project aims to expand the ATV injury surveillance database, including addition of 2010 press clippings from the nine-state GPCAH region, to administer an online survey to Iowa's primary health care providers regarding knowledge of ATV safety/laws, current ATV-related injury prevention efforts, and desired resources for ATV safety anticipatory guidance.

"Invest in Your Child's Health" Young Farmer (AgriSafe Network - N Roy) AgriSafe plans to pilot a social marketing radio campaign aimed at increasing the use of personal protective equipment among Iowa farm youth ages 12-18 while they perform agricultural tasks. The radio campaign will be designed to change adults' perceptions of agricultural health and safety risks while their adolescent is performing agricultural tasks, and the need for the child to wear personal protective equipment. Topic areas will be respiratory and hearing protection, sun safety, and age-appropriate tasks.

Driver Response to Left-Turning Tractors (National Advanced Driving Simulator - TL Brown) A crash in which a farm vehicle is struck by a non-farm vehicle is a critical problem on rural roadways. Many of these crashes take place when a tractor is turning left and is struck by a vehicle attempting to pass. This study will explore the role of placement of turn signals in driver ability to see and understand the indication of turn information. This project lays groundwork for evaluating the effectiveness of proposed tractor lighting and marking standards.

MRSA – Poultry Reservoir (University of Iowa OEH - AL Harper) Antibiotic-resistant infections are a public health issue, and antibiotic usage in livestock and poultry production may be creating new resistant and persistent environmental pathogens. One such pathogen is methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Prior reports and previous work suggest that poultry facilities may be reservoirs for antibiotic-resistant *S. aureus*. This project will investigate the hypothesis that antibiotic-resistant *S. aureus* is present in live poultry, poultry caretakers, and within barns, thereby creating an environmental reservoir of this potentially pathogenic organism.

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

SAVE THE DATE

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum

November 17-18, 2010

Hotel Vetro

Iowa City, Iowa

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

calendar

July 15

I-CASH Hall of Fame Award - nomination deadline

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

July 27

Iowa Women in Agriculture Annual Conference

Williamsburg, IA

www.iowawomeninag.org

August 12-14

Agricultural Medicine: Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals - Session I

Dickinson, ND

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

August 31-September 2

2010 Farm Progress Show

Boone, IA

www.farmprogressshow.com

September 19-25

National Farm Safety and Health Week: ATVs - Work Smart - Ride Safe

September 23-25

Agricultural Medicine: Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals - Session II

Devils Lake, ND

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

September 30

Iowa Rural Health Association Annual Meeting - The Seeds of Change

Johnston, IA

www.iowapha.org

November 17-18

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety & Health Forum - Cultivating Change

Iowa City, IA

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

November 17-20

20th Annual Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum

Austin, TX

www.ncfh.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

+++++It All Adds Up

**Production Agriculture Injury INCIDENTS Reported in Press Clippings
9-State Upper Midwest Region, 2009 (as of June 1, 2010)**

Fatal Incidents (Total = 163)		Nonfatal Incidents (Total=189)							
Tractors and Mobile Machinery	58%	Tractors and Mobile Machinery	64%						
(Includes ATVs and Utility Haulers AT WORK)		(Includes ATVs and Utility Haulers AT WORK)							
Overturn	46%	Overturn	15%						
Runover	16%	Runover	12%						
Crushed	7%	Crushed	5%						
Collision	15%	Collision	33%						
Entangled	8%	Entangled	15%						
Other	8%	Other	20%						
Grain/Feed Stuffs Storage & Handling	12%	Grain/Feed Stuffs Storage & Handling	8%						
Livestock Handling	2%	Livestock Handling	5%						
Other	28%	Other	23%						
Number of Injury or Death Incidents in Press Clips by State in the 9-State Region									
	WI	MN	ND	SD	IA	IL	MO	KS	NE
Fatal Incident Clips	26	26	16	5	17	13	28	19	13
Nonfatal Incident Clips	30	38	14	6	37	16	14	17	17

Source: GPCAH Farm and Agricultural Injury Monitoring Service (FAIMS)

For additional information contact Murray Madsen at 319/335-4481 or e-mail murray-madsen@uiowa.edu