

# Epidemiology of Farm Equipment Crashes in Nine Midwest States October, 2014

## The Problem

- Farm equipment crashes are continually at risk in the Midwest with the increase in motor vehicle traffic, especially on rural roadways.
- Recognizing the pattern of farm equipment-related crashes is needed for development of effective interventions.
- We examined farm vehicle-related crashes from nine Midwest states from 2005-2010 (n=7,094; 12,938 vehicles/drivers; 14,842 persons).

## Findings

- At least one fatality occurred in 156 farm vehicle-related crashes and 32% of the farm crashes involved at least one injury.
- Most common type of collision involved rear-ending a vehicle.

Figure 1. Vehicle action at time of crash in 9 States: 2005-2010 (n=12,485)

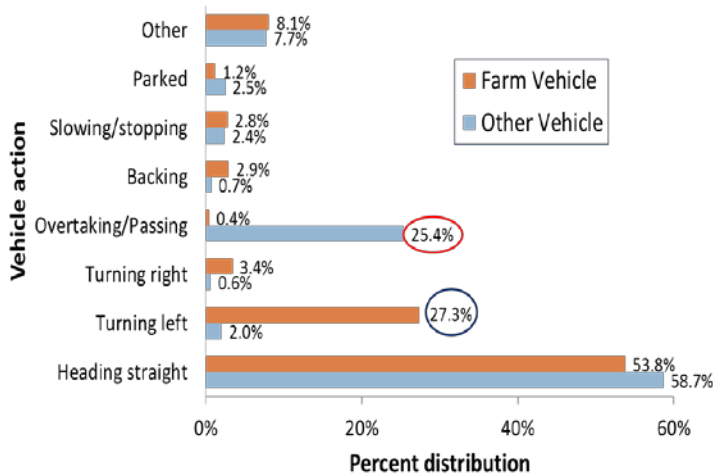
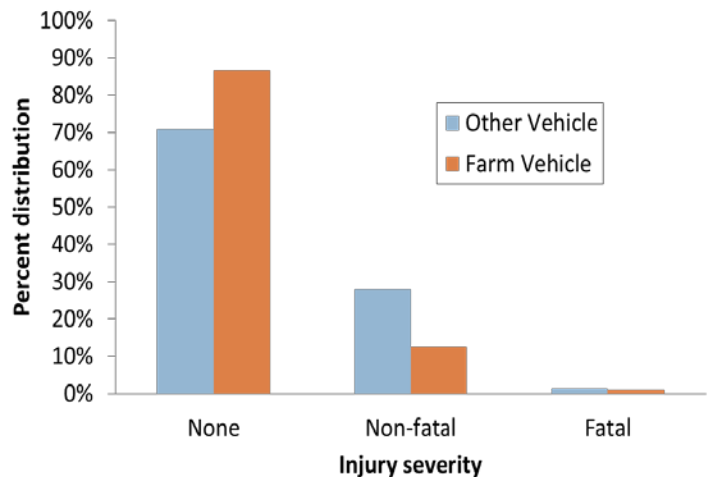


Figure 2. Occupant injury severity in 9 States: 2005-2010 (n=14,578)



- Farm vehicles were more likely to be turning left (27.3% vs. 2%-other vehicle) whereas the other vehicle was more commonly overtaking/passing (25.4% vs. 0.4%-farm vehicle) when crash occurred (Fig. 1).

- Persons in farm vehicles were more likely to be uninjured (86.6% vs. 70.8%-other vehicle) and those in other vehicles were more likely to sustain an injury (27.9% vs. 12.5%-farm vehicle) from a crash with a farm vehicle (Fig. 2).

## Safety Tips

### ***Farm vehicle drivers:***

- Use slow-moving vehicle emblems and reflectors on equipment.
- Make sure your farm equipment is well lit—turn signals, headlights, taillights must meet state vehicle codes.
  - Keep lights on and flashing in the daytime and at night.
- Try to limit moving equipment on roadways during the evening and at peak traffic times.

### ***All drivers:***

- Expect to see slow-moving farm equipment on rural roads.
  - Slow down when you notice farm equipment.
- Be patient and wait for a safe place to pass.
  - Make sure you have ample room to pass.

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