How Farmers Get Hurt

Hazards on the farm

Many types of hazards threaten farm workers including physical stress, exposure to machinery, livestock, chemicals, and noise. All of these hazards can lead to a variety of injuries.

Below are examples of how Midwestern farmers have been fatally injured.

Head

Can be caused by falls or impact from animals, tools, or vehicles

~20% of deaths

Other organs

Damage can occur when the body is crushed or compressed by equipment or an object

~25% of deaths

Spine & Bones

Caused by falls or the body being stuck or pinned between objects

~3% of deaths

Lungs

Asphyxiation can occur when entering confined spaces like manure pits and grain bins

~15% of deaths

Skin

Burns and cuts can occur anywhere on the body Infection, tissue damage, and blood loss can lead to death

~5% of deaths

Extremities

Can occur if hands or feet get caught in moving parts during cleaning or repair work

~2% of deaths

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