



## US Ag Centers ready for National Farm Safety and Health Week, Sept. 20-26

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The 10 U.S. Agricultural Centers funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are uniquely positioned to promote safety solutions during National Farm Safety and Health Week (September 20-26) and year round.

The centers have pooled their expertise on a YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/USagCenters](http://www.youtube.com/USagCenters), featuring 80 videos. The videos can be used by Extension agents, agricultural science teachers, producers, first responders, families and others interested in agricultural safety best-practices.

The videos have undergone formal review and only the best are put on YouTube. Popular topics include grain bins, dairy, tractor rollovers and heat illness. Five new videos were added recently, including four on needlestick injuries (two Spanish, two English), and one on hearing protection.

Agriculture is among our most hazardous industries, with a work-related death rate of 22.2 deaths per 100,000 workers annually, according to the most recent numbers from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, far ahead of transportation (13.1/100,000) and mining (12.3/100,000).

The ag centers were established by Congress in 1990 in response to evidence that agricultural workers were suffering substantially higher rates of occupational injury and illness than other U.S. workers.

NIOSH, within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), funds nine regional Centers for Agricultural Disease and Injury Research, Education, and Prevention and one national center to address children's farm safety. The NIOSH Agricultural Centers are distributed throughout the nation to be responsive to the agricultural safety and health issues unique to the different regions. Links to these centers can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/oep/agctrhom.html>.

The 2015 theme for National Farm Safety and Health Week is, "Ag Safety is not just a slogan, it's a lifestyle." For more information on National Farm Safety and Health Week, and safety resources, visit the website of the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, <http://www.necasag.org/>.