

TAILGATE TOPIC



TOPIC: Preventing Slips and Falls

OVERVIEW: Slips and falls on farms are common occurrences frequently resulting in injury, some serious. Falls from machinery are common on farms. In addition, falls from floor level may occur as well. For example, tripping over tools, or slipping on wet surfaces or oil on the floor. To prevent injuries from slip and falls it is important to stay alert and follow these safe practices.

TALKING POINTS:

Falls from floor level

- Maintain a clean work area to prevent clutter.
- Clean up spills, such as oil, immediately.
- Wear slip resistant footwear.
- Walk, do not run.
- Look where you are going, especially in bad weather.
- Spread sand and/or salt on icy surfaces.
- Keep the work area well lit, especially if working at night.
- Cover any openings on the ground to prevent falling into the opening.

Falls from machinery

- Maintain a 3 point contact at all times when climbing on ladders or tractors. Always keep 2 hands and 1 foot or 1 hand and 2 feet on the ladder or tractor at all times.
- Keep steps and platforms or tractors in good condition and clean.
- Never jump from a tractor.
- Only ride the tractor in the seat to prevent falling from the tractor.
- Do not allow riders on the tractor.

General

- Report any slip or fall hazard immediately and alert your co-workers.

REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. What is the 3 point contact rule? (Answer: Always keep 2 hands and 1 foot or 1 hand or 2 feet on the ladder or tractor)
2. How can you prevent slipping on an icy surface? (Answer: Spread sand or salt on surface)
3. Why should you maintain a clean work area? (Answer: To prevent slips and falls)
4. To whom should you report slip, trip or fall hazards? (Answer: Supervisor)

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