

Liaison CASA

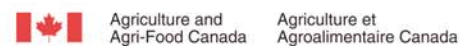
December 2008

Word from the Chairman

I would like to thank everyone who took time to participate in the Safety Summit held this October in Saskatoon for their hard work and commitment. You'll soon see the printed results and I know the seeds sown in October will bear fruit for many seasons to come. I want also to especially thank the facilitators at the Summit for keeping the groups on track and taking such great notes. I also want to thank the CASA Council for attending and contributing so thoughtfully. In particular, I would like to thank Patty Williams for the warm Saskatchewan welcome for all Summit participants and to CASA staff for coordinating Summit meeting details.

On behalf of our Board I would also like to wish everyone Happy Holidays – and renewal in the New Year!

Bruce Johnson
CASA Chair



Did you know?

- The Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program (CAISP) is evolving to strengthen data reliability and comprehensiveness and expand data access. Stay tuned to <http://meds.queensu.ca/~emresrch/caisp/>
- The 2007-2008 Annual Report of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association is available on CASA's website http://www.casa-acsa.ca/english/PDF/19137_casa_ar_E_LR.pdf

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News

Advancing agricultural safety CASA Safety Summit delivers

Through the dedicated efforts of the approximately 70 people invited to participate in the CASA Safety Summit in Saskatoon October 23-24, CASA now has a framework formed through consensus to move forward.

CASA chairman Bruce Johnson thanked and praised all the participants for working so hard and so well together to come up with recommendations on which CASA can build a unified program for the next decade. Johnson says he's "particularly pleased to see the support for CASA to take the leadership role in promotion national farm safety".

All suggestions and comments were noted and further melded into a final report that concludes:

- 1 - There is a strong consensus that CASA needs to play a national leadership role as:
 - A repository of information, materials, best practices, models, materials and resources;
 - A source of resources for the development and implementation of farm safety programs;



Safety Summit continued

- A facilitator of national infrastructure development and collaboration among the many partners and stakeholders who are, or should be, involved in promoting and nurturing safety on the farm, including development and rollout of common branding across Canada.
- 2 There is an equally strong consensus that CASA needs to be supported by its partners and stakeholders on an equal basis, i.e. ensure that CASA is not expected to do everything.
 - 3 There is overwhelming concern over adequate funding for CASA as the national body representing the interests and needs of partners and stakeholders involved in farm safety: there is a need for core, multi-year funding tied to benchmarking and performance measures.
 - 4 There is a great deal of commitment among the stakeholders for collaboration and economy of scale, including the desire to communicate heavily through various means, whether face to face or electronic.
 - 5 There is a clear message that CASA, with the help of its stakeholders, needs to swell its ranks of stakeholders and partners, including those agencies that may provide stable funding to the national organization.
- CASA executive director Marcel Hacault says CASA is poised to move on the recommendations from the Summit. "We are encouraged by the support Canada's farm safety professionals and farm groups show in CASA", he says, "and we're getting ready to deliver even more to help farmers recognize and manage risk in their workplaces."

All the hard work at the Ag Safety Summit in Saskatoon this past October has been distilled into a report: **Advancing Agricultural Safety – A National Framework for Farm Safety**. Summit facilitators approved the draft and CASA's Board of Directors approved the report. Now it's up to all of us to keep it front and centre as we move toward achieving national consistency in farm safety initiatives.

Check it at http://www.casa-acsa.ca/english/members_whoare.html.

CASA Council elects three to Board

John Gordon, executive director of the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety; Bruce Johnson, executive director of BC's Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association; and Billy Woods, a farmer from Torbay, Newfoundland, have been elected for three-year terms to the seven-member CASA Board of Directors.

CASA's 32 Council members annually elect members to the Board. The Council represents farm safety professionals and farmers across Canada.

CASA Board elects officers

CASA's new Board of Directors elected Bruce Johnson president for a second one-year term. Vice-president for 2008-09 is Dean Anderson, president and CEO of the Farm Safety Association in Ontario.

Lauranne Sanderson, associate professor at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, was elected treasurer and Laurel Aitken, farm safety co-ordinator for the Alberta government, is now secretary for CASA's Board. Denis Bilodeau, second vice-president of l'Union des producteurs agricoles, continues as a member of the 2008-09 Board of Directors.

To access the 2007-08 Annual Report, go to www.casa-acsa.ca

Canadian Agricultural Safety Week to launch year-long PPE safety theme

"PPE only works if you use it!" is the theme of this year's Canadian Agricultural Safety campaign with a focus on the use, fit and access of personal protective equipment (PPE) in agriculture. The year-long campaign will be launched with Canadian Agricultural Safety Week March 11 to 17, 2009.

The campaign is delivered by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) in partnership with Farm Credit Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Safety Week launches are planned for early March in Ontario and Newfoundland. There'll be media releases and supporting PPE resources available at CASA's website.

"The idea behind the campaign theme "PPE only works if you use it!" is two-fold," says Marcel Hacault, executive director of CASA. "The first part encourages producers to think through their work before starting so they can anticipate and correct any hazards that may occur. The second part encourages producers to ensure the correct access, use, and fit of any necessary personal protective equipment."

CASA is developing PPE resources that will be introduced during Safety Week. These materials include several posters indicating noise levels, a respiratory fact sheet, and several training programs for both hearing and respiratory protection in agricultural situations.

CASHP funds

16 projects for 2008-09

Under the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework Agreement on Agricultural and Agri-Food Policy, CASA is the association designated to provide a forum for directing and coordinating activities with a national, multi-provincial or provincial scope specifically related to farm safety and rural health issues.

CASA fulfills much of that mandate through CASHP - the Canadian Agricultural Safety and Health Program.

Jonas Johnson is CASA's project manager for CASHP. He says the program receives many more applications for funding than it can fill every year. In 2008-09, CASA approved \$283,642.50 for 16 projects under CASHP. In 2007-08, 20 organizations received funding that directly touched over 370,000 Canadian producers.

Johnson explains that an Advisory Committee of eight meets via teleconference twice a year to approve the projects. "They prioritize the requests, discuss and vote on them until we use all the AAFC funding. Decisions must be unanimous."

CASA approves funding for projects that fall into one of three categories of AAFC strategic outcomes: a Competitive and Innovative Sector; a Sector that Contributes to Society's Priorities; a Sector that is Proactive in Managing Risks.

In 2008-09, 13 organizations qualified to receive CASHP funding. Applicants may be individuals, producer organizations, not-for-profit organizations, agricultural service/supply industry members, academia and research representatives or provincial and municipal governments.

Johnson says CASHP recipients provide regular reports to CASA as well as a final evaluation report. All projects must conclude by March 20 in any given year.

For application information including forms and deadlines, please contact Jonas Johnson CASA at (204) 261-4895 jjohnson@casa-acsa.ca.

Check out the 2008-09 CASHP projects at: <http://www.casa-acsa.ca/english/index.html>

What did you say?

Agricultural Health and Safety Network publishes new hearing loss protection brochure

Did you know that ...

- playing a radio in a cab increases the noise level by 3-5dB?
- that cabs can reduce noise levels by 16 dB but this is halved to 8 dB if the door is open?
- that older tractor cabs tend to be 6 dB louder than newer tractor cabs?

And - if you need to raise your voice to be heard by someone 1 metre (3 feet) away from you, noise levels are potentially harmful and hearing protection is needed!

What did you say? is packed with hearing protection tips and advice, including a noise thermometer that points out why you can't hear much near an operating grain auger!

You can download or order copies of What did you say? at <http://aghealthandsafetynetwork.usask.ca>.

What did you say? was produced with financial assistance from CASA's CASHP granting program.

Manitoba farmers put safety first

Manitoba's general farm organization, Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is spearheading the development of an association to deal with farm safety and health issues for Manitoba's farmers.

The initiative is a result of KAP's first Manitoba Farm Safety and Health Seminar held in Winnipeg November 6 & 7, 2008. The 45 participants all agreed that safe farms must be a priority and that KAP needs to create an infrastructure to make it happen in Manitoba.

Seminar partners included Keystone Agricultural Producers, Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural Initiatives, Manitoba Farmers with Disabilities, and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association.

CASA safety tool-kits at no charge

CASA's ag safety resources are interactive and effective. They're appropriate for all ages – at 4-H, Scouts, Cubs or Guides, a community health fair or in an elementary through high school classroom.

Borrow one or all of the hands-on demo kits and /or a related pull-up display. Each comes with full instructions and key messaging. Drop the toy figure into the bin of grain and the message is clear and never forgotten.

Activate the power take-off and watch the rag wrap around the unprotected shaft. Stump your audience with the difference between a non-toxic and a harmful chemical that look exactly the same stored in an old pop bottle.

There's no charge to borrow these kits - just cover the cost to ship them back to CASA's Winnipeg office as soon as your event is finished. All come in sturdy cases and are easy to set up. Call (204) 452-2272 to book today.

Resources:

CHEMICAL-LOOK-A-LIKE DISPLAY

This display illustrates the visual similarities between a potentially fatal substance if consumed and a safe substance if consumed.

PTO (POWER TAKE OFF) DISPLAY

This display demonstrates how fast a PTO turns, revealing how quickly one can become entangled and severely injured or killed.

GRAVITY FLOW WAGON DISPLAY

This display explains how suddenly one can suffocate in moving grain.

Check Resources on CASA's website www.casa-acsa.ca



The Farm Safety Association and Kubota partner with EquiMania! at the 2008 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

This November, the Farm Safety Association partnered with EquiMania! and Kubota to launch a new youth safety initiative, "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!" at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. Presented by Equine Guelph (University of Guelph), EquiMania! is an interactive youth education program designed to promote horse health and safety to horse enthusiasts of all ages and disciplines.

Dean Anderson, CEO of the Farm Safety Association says "we had a chance to deliver a critical safety message in a fun, interactive way to kids through EquiMania!'s high profile educational initiatives at equine events, like the Royal. This partnership works and simply makes sense."

The "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!" campaign hit centre stage with EquiMania!'s daily Safety Game Show at noon where 20 kids participated in the categories of horse, tractor and general farm safety trivia in the Spirit of the Horse Ring. To top off these joint efforts of the campaign, adults and children could be seen sporting a Horse Hat that showcased the common safety message, "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!"

Over 60,000 children and their families visited EquiMania! this year to participate in all the activities. The Royal marked EquiMania!, the Farm Safety Association and Kubota's initial positive impact on delivering a youth focused safety message.



Dates to remember:

January 12-14, 2009 CASA's Board of Directors meets in Winnipeg

January 20-23, 2009 CASA's Marcel Hacault speaks at the Banff Pork Seminar

March 11-17, 2009 Canada Safety Week launches in Ontario and Newfoundland

Disabled farmers have a mission

Most disabled farmers have “an overpowering urge” to convince other producers to use safe farming practices. “They don’t want others to go through what they experienced,” Carl Palmer explains.

The Canadian Farmers With Disabilities Registry chair says having a personal mission “makes them effective ambassadors for the delivery of farm safety messages”—a fact that’s being nationally recognized by the agricultural community. Members promote farm safety at major agricultural events. They also provide information about machinery adaptations that allow producers with missing limbs to continue to farm.

At this fall’s CFWDR annual in Edmonton, delegates exchanged information and participated in training sessions to hone their peer counseling skills.

For more information, go to www.fwdcanada.com

Jacob is back

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture (NLFA) launched a new children’s book about farm safety to coincide with the signing of the proclamation of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Week by Premier Danny Williams. The Premier was presented with a copy of Safety First: Farm Safety for Children.

The book is the latest in the “Jacob on the Farm” series of children’s books which teaches children valuable lessons about the agriculture industry such as safety and where their food originates.

“Agricultural Safety Week provides a great opportunity to promote both agriculture awareness and safety on the farm” said Merv Wiseman, NLFA President. “The launch of the Jacob the Farmer children’s book about farm safety really emphasizes the importance of the message of farm safety, and the need to educate children about this issue while they are young.”

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days held across Canada



Apply TODAY for your community’s chance to host a Safety Day in 2010

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) is pleased to support Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™ in Canada. This hands-on, fun, and educational program has helped children across Canada learn about the dangers and potential deadly outcomes of unsafe behaviour on the farm.

“When an individual or community partners with the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™ program, they are provided planning resources to help each Safety Day become a success” says Susan Reynolds, Executive Director-Programs of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™. “Through our program, each lead coordinator is provided training on how to organize a Safety Day, and is offered year-round support.”

Each Safety Day is organized locally, allowing communities to meet local priorities in their area. Children rotate among different safety stations, allowing each child the opportunity to participate in interactive and engaging activities.”

In 2008, 45 Safety Days were held in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick involving almost 10,000 youth and over 1,600 adult volunteers. In 2009, 78 Safety Days are planned!

Founded by The Progressive Farmer magazine in the U.S. in 1995, the program trains and provides the resources that local communities need to conduct one-day safety programs that are age-appropriate, hands-on, fun, and safe for children. While the basic program reaches children ages of 8 to 13, Safety Days may also be conducted for 4- to 7-year-olds or even entire families.

The mission of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days™ is simple – to make farm and ranch life safer and healthier for all children through education and training.

Check out www.casa-acsa.ca to host a 2010 Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™.

