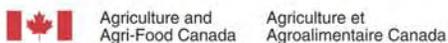


Liaison CASA

Volume 2 no 1



Did you know?

You can contact Marcel Hacault if your organization's mandate includes looking at different potential trade impacts. CASA is willing to present to you and your members a summary of a report that looked at Canada's agricultural health and safety policies and their possible implications on trade. For further information please contact Marcel @ 204-261-4948 or mhcasa@mts.net.

"Farm safety is MY business." is the theme of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW), March 8-14, 2006. The campaign examines various aspects of risk management in the agricultural sector with a special focus on young workers between the ages of 15 and 29. You can download the Media kit directly from our Internet site.

- The Canadian Agricultural Safety Week will be launched in Olds, Alberta on March 6th and in New Brunswick on March 8th.
- CASA and key stakeholders in injury prevention are meeting on February 23-24 to discuss an evaluation process of the existing CAISP (Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program) and strategies to ensure continued data collection for injuries and illnesses that occur in the agricultural workplace.
- Experienced Farmer Resources: CASA and SMARTRISK are collaborating to develop the first steps of a strategy that will target experienced farmers.

Contact information :

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA)

Email: casaacsa@mts.net
Tel: (204) 452-2272
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A Word from the Chairman

This time, we invite you to visit British Columbia to learn about FARSHA, a non profit-organization based in Langley, British Columbia. Dedicated to reducing the number of injuries and accidents on BC farms and ranches through continuing programs of safety promotion and education, the association has strategically located Regional Safety Coordinators throughout the province. They provide ongoing safety courses, safety materials and helpful advice.

Glen G. Blahey
Chairman

A Visit to British-Columbia

Since its founding in 1993, the Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association (FARSHA) has worked to make employers and workers aware of safety and health hazards, and to help follow British Columbia's Regulations for Occupational Health and Safety in Agriculture. FARSHA also provides on-site training, literature, videos, and other forms of health and safety guidance.

FARSHA is always looking to develop new programs to meet the needs of farmers and ranchers and ensure that its material is up to date. In the past year, the organization has updated and created the following programs:

Training Programs

1. ATV Safety Awareness Training Program (update)

- Describe legal requirements for ATV operation in BC agriculture
- Explain the special characteristics of ATVs, and their effect on safety and operation
- List the protective gear used by an ATV operator
- Describe a pre-ride and post-ride inspection of the ATV
- Explain safe operating tips in a variety of common situations.



2. Horse Handling Training Program (new)

This training program is designed to help working cowboys and ranchers, who use horses, to increase their control over the outcome of potentially dangerous situations, using safe horse handling procedures and techniques.

The training program is divided into eight modules, plus a short interview and a slideshow. The program can be delivered in its entirety or divided into stand alone modules.

DVD Synopsis

The DVD clips and film footage segments provide a visual training aid.

These segments are included to enable a greater degree of understanding. The DVD content comes in a menu format and allows the instructor to select a particular area of interest. The instructor can then tailor the presentation to the size of the group and work within specific time constraints.



3. First On The Scene Training Program (updated)

Farm workers are usually the first ones to discover accidents that may have happened to their family members. Accidents are often detected when a person does not arrive when expected. When someone discovers an accident, he or she may often be in a remote location with no one else around. This program then teaches how to:

- Keep yourself safe, both emotionally and physically.
- Save the patient; your decision may be life or death.
- Get help.

It deals with questions about what you should be thinking and how you should be reacting.

This training program is taught using descriptions of real-life accident scenarios.

- What hazards are you likely to encounter at various scenes and what do you do with them?
 - To get help or not?
 - How much first aid should you administer?
 - What do you do after the accident has been reported?
- We may use demonstrations.

4. Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention Program

The first and most evident goal of this program is to decrease the number of musculoskeletal injuries within individual companies. In turn, it is hoped, that as the number of musculoskeletal injuries decrease, so will the costs associated with it. Secondly, this program hopes to increase productivity. This is believed to occur by decreasing the fatigue experienced by employees. Fatigue and soreness causes a slow-down in productivity rate. If fatigue is prevented or delayed, the employee is able to work longer at a faster pace before slowing productivity rate due to fatigue.

This program requires the support of management and the active participation of the Health and Safety Committee and Occupational First Aid Attendants.

Presentations:

- a) Confined Spaces
- b) Noise and Hearing Loss

These presentations are a synthesis of the training program whose purpose is to inform farmers and ranchers about what each one is about.

Booklets:

- ATV Safety for Agricultural Workers
- BC Pork Producers' Safety Guide
- FARSHA Explains: BC Workers' Compensation System BC's Health and Safety Laws
- Safe Work Practices for Dairy Workers in BC
- Pesticide Safety for Agricultural Workers

Spanish Translations:

FARSHA have a variety of brochures and posters translated in Spanish.

Punjabi Translations:

FARSHA have a variety of booklets, brochures, posters and decals translated in Punjabi.

For more information: **FARSHA** Suite #311, 9440 - 202 Street, Langley, B.C. V1M 4A6
Phone: (604) 881-6078 – Fax: (604) 881-6079 – Toll Free: 1-877-533-1789
E-mail: farmsafe@farsha.bc.ca



A New Fast-Track Review Process

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) proudly announces the new Fast-Track review process. A pilot review was conducted on one project for the January 31, 2006 CASHP deadline and we will be applying the Fast-Track to all suitable projects for the year 2006-07. AAFC expects CASA and applicants to provide the same level of due diligence, same checks, and balances as in regular project applications.

How will it work?

1. The Fast-Track approval process is only designed for projects where the funding request from CASA is \$5,000.00 or less.
2. The review process will involve 3 individuals: 1 AAFC and 2 advisory committee members. One of the advisory committee members would be from the same province as the applicant and the second advisory committee member will have experience and skills related to the topic of the application.
3. The same application form will be used for all applications. Look for information on Fast-Track in the new CASHP guidelines for 2006-07, which will be released shortly.

Key Dates

March 8 - 14, 2006

Canadian Agricultural Safety Week

CASA Conference to be held in Canmore, Alberta, **Nov 15-17**. More details to follow in the next issue.

