



Liaison CASA

July 2006 Edition



Did you know?

- You have until August 4 to make an application in the Canadian Agriculture Safety and Health Program (CASHP). Visit our website for further information www.casa-acsa.ca/english/index.html
- Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives and Manitoba Labour and Immigration are working together on the Safe Play Area grant program. A Safe Play Area physically limits children's exposure to hazards on the farm. Under adult supervision children can safely experience the stimulation that play provides for growth within a safer environment.



A Word from the Chairman

Helping us learn from others and adapting those experiences to our own environment is part of CASA's role. I want to congratulate every volunteer and person working for safe and healthy agriculture in Canada. We often think that what we or someone else are doing locally pales in comparison to work taking place a thousand miles away. But the reality is that those who are a thousand miles away are looking at us and marveling at the work we are doing. A diversity of approaches, sharing and commitment can only build a stronger strategy for agricultural safety and health.

Glen G. Blahey
Chairman

News

Won't you do your part?

Discussions for the next Agricultural Policy begin at the provincial level across Canada this summer. I invite all the groups involved in farm health activities to get in touch with their minister of agriculture to ensure these questions are among the priorities of the next APF. Of course, CASA is interested in continuing its actions in this area, but we need your support and we are counting on your involvement.

Discover Manitoba

- In Manitoba, this logo has become synonymous with programs of agencies providing health and safety information, as well as with the many volunteer and service organizations operating at the local level.
- In Manitoba, agricultural health and safety programs are intertwined through the mandated regulatory process and educational community awareness programs. For both processes to work effectively, communication is key.
- In 2002, the Minister of the Manitoba departments of Agriculture, Food & Rural Initiatives and Labour & Immigration appointed a Provincial Farm Safety Coordinator to work with industry and special interest groups, as well as with other government departments to enhance inter-agency communications. The net result has been more dialogue and greater incentive for integrating health and safety strategies into farm business risk management.



SAFE FARMS





Recent Joint Initiatives

- Oversized equipment on public roadways - public awareness campaign
- Making farming safer for older farmers - printed material
- Progressive Agriculture Safety Days - community awareness programs
- Smart Choices, Business Risk Management - printed material
- Smart Choices, Farm Family Walkabout Guide - printed material
- Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms Grant Program - printed material and grants
- Health stations at agricultural trade shows - hearing tests, blood pressure screening and lung function tests and counseling

Integrating Safety in the Workplace

By bringing current issues such as pandemic preparedness and environmental farm planning before producers and those serving the industry, we hope to underscore the fact that workplace health and safety isn't just an add-on, but an active component of every aspect of maintaining a viable farming operation. Following are some of the agencies and organizations supporting this concept and integrating workplace health and safety into the services they provide to their customers:

- Keystone Agricultural Producers
- Manitoba Pork Council
- University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agriculture
- Assiniboine Community College, Applied Agriculture Program
- Manitoba Pork Council
- Agriculture in the Classroom - Manitoba
- Manitoba Hydro
- Manitoba Agricultural Service Corporation
- Manitoba Department of Healthy Living
- Manitoba Transportation and Government Services

For further information

Visit the website <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/farmsafety/>. It was jointly developed and is maintained by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives and Manitoba Labour and Immigration. Work-related injuries and deaths on Manitoba's farms continue to occur too often. This site has been designed to provide farm managers, farm families and educators with resources necessary to improve farm safety and health.

Some of news items on the Manitoba website

- Controlling Farm Worker Exposure To Domestic Farm Animal Diseases
- Worker Health and Bio-Security
- Increased Risk of Injury when Handling Large Bales

Facts about Manitoba

- Over 98 percent of Manitoba farms were family-owned and operated in 2001, unchanged from five years earlier. There were 12,322 farms in 2001 with sole proprietorship, 6,394 farms with a partnership arrangement and 2,292 corporate farms, 1,936 of which were family corporations.
- The most significant annual crops in 2001 were spring wheat (3.69 million acres), canola (1.87 million acres), alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures (1.63 million acres) and barley (1.17 million acres). Together these four crop categories comprised almost three-quarters of all crop land in 2001.

Key Dates

Training sessions and the CASA congress will take place at the Four Points by Sheraton at Canmore, Alberta, from **November 15 until 17, 2006.**

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