

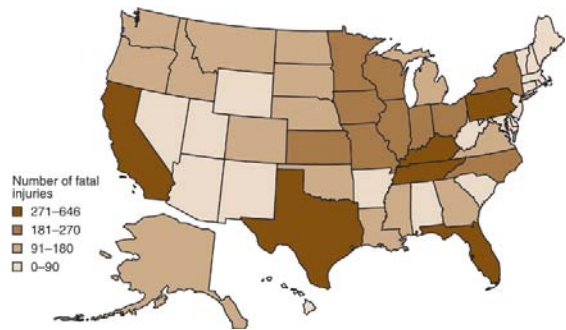
Youth TRACTOR FACTS

Summer
2007

DO YOU KNOW...?

THE FACTS

- Agriculture is the most dangerous industry for youth workers.
- 42% of all youth work related deaths between 1992-2000 were in agriculture.
- Over 100 children younger than 20 die on farms and ranches every year.
- 82% of fatalities involving youth under age 16 result from agricultural equipment.
- An additional 22,000 youth are injured on farms annually.
- Texas is 1 of 6 states that record the highest number of fatal injuries in agriculture. (See picture, right)



THE LAW

- The HOOA (Hazardous Occupations Order in Agriculture) law states that all 14-15 year old youth who are seeking employment in the agricultural industry must receive the training as required by the U.S. Department of Labor.
- Child Labor Laws forbid youth under 16 years old from operating certain types of machinery including grain combines and augers; state laws may be even more stringent.
- One exemption to the law states that 14-15 year old youth who are working on their home or family farm are exempt from the training and certification requirements.
- When youth become 16 years of age, they no longer have to obtain certification to work in the agriculture industry, but it is recommended.

THE CERTIFICATION

- The most common tractor certification course is the National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program (NSTMOP).
- The NSTMOP certifies youth 14 and 15 years old to be employed in tractor operation.
- An Agriculture Science Teacher or an Agriculture Extension Agent must be present to certify youth at all trainings.
- The NSTMOP requires 24 hours of training.

Check it out at
www.nstmop.psu.edu



More information about local tractor safety opportunities on the back!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA?

TRAIN THE TRAINERS

- Summer workshops are being held in Mt. Pleasant and Overton to train Ag Science Teachers and Ag Extension Agents to conduct the NSTMOP.
- Workshop participants learn the training material, set up the tractor driving course, and practice driving a tractor and implement through obstacles.
- Texas Master Trainer, Bob Williams from Texas A&M Commerce, is mentoring new trainers and helping to develop training programs in East Texas.
- The Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education is providing coordination and support for the workshops.



To the left, Bret McCoy, Bob Williams, and Sherman Hammons calculate the measurements for the driving course.



To the right, Bob Williams demonstrates driving a tractor and implement through the course.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Become a trainer for your area
- Implement the NSTMOP in the classroom
- Be a local partner
- Write tractor safety articles for a local paper, radio, or TV station

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

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