

FARM SAFETY CODE OF PRACTICE

RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT



www.hsa.ie

FOR FARMS WITH THREE ORLESSEMPLOYEES

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Doctor	
On-call Doctor	
Vet	
Agriculture Advisor	
Fire Brigade	
Garda Station, Priest or Minister	
Emergency Services	999 or 112
ESB Networks	1850 372 999
Health and Safety Authority	1890 289 389
National Poison Centre	01-8379963

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RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

FOR

FARMS WITH THREE OR LESSEMPLOYEES

NAME:	John	Murp	hy
	_		

ADDRESS:

FARM ENTREPRISES: <u>Sucklers</u>

Completing and implementing the findings of this Farm Safety Risk Assessment document will help you to meet your duties under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005.



CODE OF PRACTICE – RISKASSESSMENT

This is my programme in writing for managing health and safety. It is aimed at protecting myself and others who live on, work on, or visit the farm from accidents and ill health.

I undertake to,

- Provide a safe place of work.
- Advise all who work or are present on the farm of the hazards identified in this risk assessment and the controls in place to pro tect them from injur y.
- Use safe systems of work.
- Provide all machine guards, pro tective equipm ent, information, training, and supervision necessary to pro tect those at risk.
- Review health and safety on my farm and this document on a regular basis.
- If a dangerous situation arises, I undertake to stop work immediately, until the hazard is controlled.

Signed: John Murphy

Date: 19/12/11



HOW TO COMPLETE THIS DOCUMENT

Tractor, Vehicle and ATV Risk Assessment	LISTAL	LVEHIC	LESUSE	OONTHE	FARM		
I will ensure that:	Ford	Zetor	ATV	Loade r	Loade r		P 2. plete this
The Cab/Roll bar is in goodcondition.	~	~	N/A	~	~		
The U guard is in placeto cover the PTOstub	~	~	~	~	~		
H-controls are in working order and are clearly marked/understood.	~	~	~	×	~		
The brakesare in goodworking order and adequate for the work undertaken.							
The handbrake is fully operational.							
The mirrors, lights, indicators and wipers are all functioning, clean and visible.						Check Contr	:P4. kthat Sa rol Measu
All hitching equipment is free of defects.						are in each	n placefo itemliste
All visible defects in the vehicle are identified and rectified. (list defects on control sheet)						Answ N/A	/er ✔, ≯
Safety Practices						-	
The vehicle is only operated by competent drivers.	~	~	~	~	X		
Where the operator handbookis available it will be consulted.	~	~	N/A	~	~		
The vehicle is always started and operated from the correct position.							
Passengers are only carried where the manufacturer has designed the vehicle for this purpose.							
When starting and operating anyvehicle, bystanders will not be endangered.							
Travel speed will besuitable to the groundor roadconditions.							
When a vehicle isstopped, the SAFE parking procedure is used.							
Additional vehicle controls used.						STE List a	EP 5. additional

STEP 3. Read the Control Measures.



STEP 6.

Note: If a Safety Control Measure is missing indicate this on your Action List page 25.

This document provides you with a means of identifying the hazards on your farm. It highligh ts what control measures you need to put in place to make your farm a safer place for you, your family, visitors and those who work on it from time to time.



MAJOR RISKS IN FARMING

THE OVERALL SITUATION

- Farming is one of the most dangerous occupations in Ireland. Over one third of all workpl ace fatalities in Ireland occurr in farming.
- Childr en and the elderly are particularly at risk.
 50% of all farm deaths now involve over 65s and 20% of fatalities are to childr en.
- 182 people have been killed on Irish farms in the last 10 years. Over 3,000 serious injuri es occur every year.
- The chart below gives the main causes of farm fatilities since 1996.



A farm accident left this farmer paralysed



FIGURE 1: MAJOR CAUSES OF FARM DEATHS (1996 - 2005)



Children

Since 1996, over 21% (38) of fatal farm accidents involved childr en. Practically all involved family members. The major causes of childhood accidents are tractors and machinery (58%), and dro wning (21%).

Farms are a high risk environm ent for childr en, young persons and visiting childr en. There is therefore a major responsibility on the farmer to ensure that the risks posed to childr en on the farm are assessed and controls are put in place.



Prevent Climbing

Supervise children

Keep children away

Older Farmers

A major trend in fatal accidents among older farmers has emerged in the last three years with 50 % of all farm deaths involving farmers aged 65 or over. The majori ty of these accidents are associated with tractor and machinery usage, livestock particularly bulls and falling from heigh ts. The clear message is that older farmers must take greater care and before doing any work, must consider their limi tations.

Plan for safety

Discuss issues

Children and Older Farmers

Children and Older Farmer Safety Assessment	
I will ensure that:	
CHILDREN	
A safe and secure play area for children is provided away	
from all work activities or children are supervised.	\checkmark
The dangers to children on the farm are explained to all	
children and young persons.	\checkmark
A high level of supervision will be in place when	
children are present on the farm.	\checkmark
Children under 14 are not allowed operate tractors or	10
self-propelled machines.	\checkmark
Children over 14 will only be allowed to drive a tractor	
or self propelled vehicle in line with legal requirements.	\checkmark
Particular dangers to children on my farm are identified and	
controlled (e.g. tractor operation, slurry pits, falls).	\checkmark
Contractors will be made aware of the possible presence of children.	\checkmark
OLDER FARM HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	1
Particular dangers to older farmers are identified, including working	
with machinery, livestock and accessing heights.	\checkmark
Particular care will be taken when older farmers	
are present when work is in progress.	\checkmark
Make sure that the older farmer is physically fit to carry out the work at hand.	
List additional controls	•
Children under the age of 7 are not allowed to travel in tractors	\checkmark

Tractors, Farm Vehicles and ATV's

Tractor and vehicle use is potentially lethal. Tractors account for the highest proportion of fatalities and accidents each year. Vehicle operation accounts for 56% of all deaths with vehicles and machinery. Being crushed (49%), struck (20%), pinned under (20%) or falling from the vehicle are the causes of vehicle accidents. Those at risk include persons using the tractor and those who may be in the area where the tractor is operating. Poor operation of vehicles particularly when reversing is another main cause of fataili ties.

Tractors, Farm Vehicles and ATV's.

Tractor, Vehicle and ATV Risk Assessment	LISTALLVEHICLES USED ON THE FAR				
I will ensure that:	MF 390	Ford	Quad		
TheCab/Roll bar is in good condition.	\checkmark				
The U guard is in place to cover the PTO stub	X				
All controls are in working order and are clearly marked/understood.	\checkmark				
The brakes are in good working order and adequate for the work undertaken.	\checkmark				
The handbrake is fully operational.					3.75
The mirrors, lights, indicators and wipers are all functioning, clean and visible.	×				V
All hitching equipment is free of defects.	\checkmark				
All visible defects in the vehicle are identified and rectified. (list defects on control sheet)	\checkmark				3.1
Safety Practices					
The vehicle is only operated by competent drivers.	\checkmark				
Where the operator handbook is available it will be consulted.	N/A				L.V
The vehicle is always started and operated from the correct position.	\checkmark				
Passengers are only carried where the manufacturer has provided a seat for this purpose.	\checkmark				
When starting and operating any vehicle, bystanders will not be endangered.	\checkmark				
Travel speed will be suitable to the ground or road conditions.					
When a vehicle is stopped, the SAFE parking procedure is used.	\checkmark				
Additional vehicle controls used.					

Machinery

Machinery is a signi ficant source of fatalities and serious injuri es in agriculture. Since 1995 machinery accounts for 22% (38) of farm fatalities. The primary causes of accidents involving machinery are crushing, being struck and entanglement. Those at risk of injur y are persons operating the machinery and those in the vicini ty when machinery is being operated.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Machinery

Machinery Risk Assessment		List all machiney used on the farm.						
I will ensure that:	Topper	Slurry Tanker	Fert Spreader	Trailer	_			
All safety guards/ devices are fitted	\checkmark							
The PTO "O" guards are present.	×							
The hydraulic systems and hoses are in good repair.	\checkmark							
All machinery defects are identified (list)					- 22			
Regular maintenance is carried out	\checkmark		5					
Safety Practices				24	-			
Machinery is only operated by competent operators.	\checkmark				Y			
The operator handbook where available is read and understood	\checkmark							
Hydraulic equipment is supported with an adequate prop								
during maintenance or repair (e.g. jack stands).								
The PTO and moving parts are stopped before					3			
attempting to freeany machine blockage	\checkmark				2			
Passengers are not carried on machines								
Unless designed to do so.	\checkmark							
Loads are stable and well secured.	N/A							
Additional machinery controls used.								

Livestock

Since 1995 25 fatalities associated with livestock have occurred. About a quarter of all non fatal accidents are livestock related. Of primary concern are bulls, the risks with these animals include crushing, goring, when animals are being moved, separated or released. Animals with newborn young also pose a risk. Those at risk are the farmer and those who may gain access to farm animals.

Install good handling facilities

HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Livestock

Livestock Risk Assessment	List the types of livestock (bulls, cows, rams etc.) on the farm.			
I will ensure that:	Cows	Bulls		
Pens, fencing, crush(s) and skulling gates				
and other handling facilities are safe and				
allow safe animal handling.				
Gates can be securely closed	\checkmark	\checkmark		
Fencing is adequate.	\checkmark	\checkmark		
Facilities for loading and unloading				1 and 1
of animals are adequate.	\checkmark			
A calving gate is used for calving cows.	×	N/A		1 34
A pen which prevents direct contact with the bull	Ň/A			1 10
is provided when the bull is housed.	, , , .			4N 7.
Bulls are ringed.	N/A	\checkmark		11
All visible defects in livestock facilities				1. 2. 1
are identified. (List defects on control sheet).	\checkmark			131
Safety Practices				
When outdoors the bull has a chain				
attached to thering	N/A			Joi V
Persons handling livestock, especially				
a bull, are competent and fit.	\checkmark			
A vehicle is used when herding if a				
bull is running with the herd.	\checkmark			
Signs warning of the presence of a bull				1.2.5
are displayed beside public places.	N/A	\checkmark		
Aggressive animals are culled				
List additional livestock controls identified.	*			

Farmyard and Buildings

In the 10 year period 1996-2005, 18% (32) of farm deaths were due to falls from heigh t or collapse of farm building s. Of particular concern is falling through fragile roo fs or from ladders. Collapsing walls or earthen drains also cause many deaths. Drowning in slurry and water and gas poisoning have caused 18 (10%) of farm deaths over the ten year period under review.

Farmyard and Buildings

Farmyard, Buildingsand	List Farmyards and Farm Buildings			igs	
Slurry Risk Assessment	Slatted	Calvina	Loose	Hay	Machinery
I will ensure that:	Shed	house	house	Shed	Shed y
Farmyard and surfaces are					
tidy and in goodrepair.					
Buildings are tidy and in good repair	1				
Safety rails are in place where there is	- v		1.19		
the possibility of a fall.	N/A				
A safe means of access to heights					
is used (e.g. stairs , work platform, ladder)	\checkmark			2	-
Roof work is only undertaken with a			-412 3		
proper roof ladder/crawlingboards.	\checkmark			100	1
Swinging doors can be secured.	X				Y.
Suitable fire safety equipment is available					
Exits onto public roads are safe.	./				3.2
All visible defects in the farmyard and buildings					200
are identified. (List defects on control sheet).					3.
Slurry/water					100 C
Open slurry/water tanks are fenced to a height of 1.9					
metres and secured (including gates) to prevent access.	N/A				
Access points to slatted tanks are kept secured.	./				
During slurry agitation open access points are guarded.					
Evacuation and ventilation takes place	- V				1000
before agitation of slurry.	\checkmark				
Manhole covers are replaced.	./				1.20
List additional farmyard and	-				
buildings controls identified.					

Workshop / Repairs / Timber

Farmers use an array of workshop tools and equipm ent for maintenance and repairs (e.g. welders, grind ers, generator, chainsaws and power washers). This equipm ent may pose a risk due to entanglement in moving parts, heat, explosion, being struck by metal particles and sparks. These may cause injur y to the person using the equipm ent or those who may be in the area.

Working with Timber

The major cause of timber related deaths is being struck by falling trees or branches. Bystanders, including childr en, have died in a number of cases. Since 1995, 9 fatalities involving working with timber have occurred. Chainsaw injuri es involve cuts and lacerations to the limbs, neck, head and body so pro tective clothing is necessary. Chainsaws produce noise in excess of 100 decibels so hearing pro tection must be worn. If timber penetrates an eye it can lead to loss of an eye due to introducing an infection.

Workshop / Repairs / Working with Timber

Portable and Fixed Equipment Safety Assessment (Examples: Portable equipment – angle grinder, welder, powerwiseher: Fixed equipment	List the portable and fixed equipment used on the farm.				
air compressor,hoist)	Power				39 m m
I will ensure that:	Washer	Chainsaw	Welder		
The equipment is only operated		1			
by competent operators.					
All safety devicesare in placeand are in working order.	\checkmark	\checkmark		2	12
Correct Personal Protective Equipment		•			
as specified by the manufacturer is used.	\checkmark	\checkmark			-
Manufacturer's operation manuals					N Y
are available and used.	\checkmark	\checkmark			1
All visible defects in portable and fixed equipment					1 3.5
are identified. (List defects on control sheet).	\checkmark	\checkmark			31
Proper PPE is available and put on before					
using equipment or chainsaws.	\checkmark	X			-
Chainsaws					1. S.
The chainsaw is fitted with a full rangeof safety					
Devices including a chain brake and a safety chain.	N/A	\checkmark			
Timber to be cut is adequately secured and supported.	N/A	\checkmark			
Tree felling is carried out by a competent person.	N/A	\checkmark			1.20
List additional portable and fixed		•			
equipment controls identified.					

Electricity

Since 1995, 8 farm fatalities were caused by electricity. Where electrical equipm ent is not to the correct standard or is not well maintained there is a risk of electrocution. Those at risk include the farmer and anyone entering the farm who may come in contact with faulty electrical equipm ent or overhead cables.

RCD's for sockets
Proper IP rating

Check RCD

Appropriate I.P. rating

Keep clear of over head lines

Good bonding

Watch out for overhead lines

Maintain electrics

Waterproof switches

Proper wiring

Proper sockets

Overhead lines

Electricity

Electricity Safety Assessment	List all t C Cow house	the areas wh ircuits are in Machin	here electrical nstalled. nery Parlour			
Electrical installations are inspected and		snea				
maintained by a competent electrician.		122				
Electrical fittings are of damp proof and						
dust proof standard where needed (I.P. Rated).						
All circuits are protected by an MCB or fuse						
of the correct rating.			2 4	4		
A main fuseprotects the total electrical installation.	\checkmark					
All sockets are protected by a 30mARCD on						
220/380V circuits and checked monthly.			100			
110V portable electrical equipment is						
used in building work.	\checkmark		1 3383			
An electrical welder issupplied by a						
32Aweldingsocket.						
Adequate lighting is provided in each						
area of the farmyard.			-	*		
All visible defects in electrical installations are						
identified. (List defects on control sheet).						
Electricty Networks						
Contractors and suppliers coming on the farm are						
made aware of overhead power linesand installations.						
High machinery and loads only travel under overhead						
power lines where there is adequate clearance	\checkmark					
List additional electrical controls identified.						

Chemicals

Chemicals pose a risk by different rou tes including inhalation, ingestion and absorption. The risk posed by the chemical depends on its chemical properties, particularly toxicity. The ill health effect caused ranges from irri tation, allergy, poisoning or even death. Chemicals are at their most dangerous when in concentrated form. Those who are at risk are those who use the chemicals and those who may be exposed to the chemicals while they are on the farm.

- Locked storage
- Proper PPE
 - Trained Persons
- Equipment in working order

Appropriate P.P.E.

Maintain machinery

Use automatic system

Lock away all chemicals

Chemical Safety Assessment

Chemical Safety Assessment	List all the areas on the farm where chemicals are used (include veterinary products)					
I will ensure that:	Chemical	Antibiotics/				
	store	Veterinary products				
All chemicals are kept in locked stores.	X					
All chemical containers are correctly labelled.						
Chemicals are handled and used by a competent person.		- 12				
All hazard warnings are read and understood.						
All controls recommended by the manufacturer are followed.		200				
All equipment using chemicals (e.g. sprayer, milking machine)		U IFFE				
are maintained in safe working order.	•					
Protective clothing and equipment recommended by	\checkmark					
All PPE is cleaned and stored safely after use						
Martin Listeanet and store to safety and it use.						
washingoi skin takes place before eating, drinking or smoking.						
Safe disposal of all chemical containers takesplace.						
Water available to wash chemicals off immediately		1. 1. 12				
Children are told the dangers of chemicals.						
Keep records of chemicals in stock.						
Know emergency action for very hazardous chemicals.		12012				
List additional identified controls.						

Health of Farmers

Working on the farm can affect your health. In many cases the effects on health build up over time. Of particular signi ficance in farming is the ill health caused by manual handling, dust or spores, infections and noise. Of farmers with occupational ill health 50% experience chronic back pain. Also one exposure to some dust and spores can cause severe health effects and sensitisation.

Eliminate manual handling

Proper lifting techniques

Manual Handling

Abou t a third of all repor ted accidents are due to poor manual handling . Most manual handling accidents result in back injur y. Lift ing heavy loads results in arthri tis of joints, particularly hip and knee join ts. Damage is also caused to tendons, ligaments and muscles. Injuri es can result from manual handling due to the work itself, the load, the work environm ent, or the individual's abili ty. Twisting your spine while lift ing or carrying a load is particularly dangerous.

Dust and Spores

Dust and spores cause very severe illness. Sources of dust and spores include mould y hay, straw or grain, compost used in mushroom gro wing, poul try feathers and dropping s and dust in intensive livestock houses. Exposure to these materials can cause both shor tterm effects (including irri tation, bronchitis and breathlessness), and long-term effects (including asthma chronic bronchitis, shor tness of

breath, weigh t loss, farmers lung and sensitisation). Sensitisation is very serious as any exposure in the future will cause a health effect. Always wear the proper PPE.

Infection

A range of serious illnesses can be caugh t from animals and contaminated material. Bacteria, viruses and fungi can cause illness if exposure occurs. Infection can arise from swallo wing or by penetrating the skin. Contamination through cuts or broken skin is the most likely source of infection . Contact with materials contaminated with rat's urine can cause Weils Disease, which is

potentially fatal. Other examples of infections include, Leptospirosis, Brucellosis, Bovine TB, Orf, Lyme Disease and E.coli (including the potentially fatal 0157). PPE, covering cuts and washing will pro tect you from infection.

Noise

Exposure to noise above a certain level (80dB) over extended periods causes hearing damage. As a general rule, if the noise is such that it is difficult to hear someone talk in a normal voice, noise levels are at damaging levels. Tractors, animals, chain-saws, and machinery can all produce noise levels which can over time permanently damage your hearing . Ear muffs will pro tect you from hearing loss.

Stress/ Personal Health

Farming as a li festyle in many ways is positive to well being. however, stress can arise. The main causes of stress among farmers are: uncertainties due to markets, farm prices and farm policies; financial worries, excessively long working hours, poor working condi tions, poor health and isolation. Stress and poor health are associated with high accident levels. A recent Irish study showed

that farmers have a poor health pro file. Stress can lead to disease of the circulatory system. It is important to recognise signs of stress and ill health and to seek professional help.

23

Have an annual check-up

Health of Farmers

Health Risk Assessment I will ensure that:	List areas/activities where risk is high				
Preventing Back Injury.	Lifting Fert bags	Opening straw bales			
Mechanical aids are used to reducemanual handling.					
Where possible thesize and weight of the load is reduced before manual handling.	\checkmark	\checkmark			
All loads are assessed before lifting.					
Dust and Spores.	•				
Generation of dust and spores is kept to a minimum.	N/A				
Adequate ventilation is provided.	N/A				
A suitable dust respirator (P2 or P3) is used where dust or spore levels cannot be fully controlled.	N/A	\checkmark			
Preventing Infection.					
Hand washing facilities with soapand towels are available in the farmyard.	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Suitable glovesare worn when handling potentially infectious material	\checkmark				
Cuts and abrasions are covered with a water proof plaster.	\checkmark	\checkmark			
A vermin control programmeis in place.	X	X			
Noise. (List areas/activities where the risk is high)	Cahinsaw	Tractor work			
Ways of reducing noise exposure have been considered.					
Suitable hearing protection is always worn where there is exposure to high noise levels.	\mathbf{V}				
Stress/Personal Health	· •	•			
A regular health check by a health professional is undertaken.	\checkmark				
Protection from thesun is used.					
Confidential advice issought for health related conditions					
AFirst Aid Box is available on the farm					
Additional identified controls.	V				

My Farm Safety Action List

Where your assessments have indicated safety controls that are missing you must show in the action list below what action you will take to put that control in place. This action should have a date for completion. When the control is in place the action should be signed off and the safety assessment changed to show that the control is now in place.

Safety Assessment	Safety Control Measures that are missing.	Action that I must take on my farm	Date	Sign
Sample:Machinery	PTOcover and '0' guard missing onVacuumtanker	Fit new cover and '0'guard to PTOonVacuum tanker (state the make)		J.Murphy
MF 390 Tractor	U guard was damaged /broken	Fitted new U guard on MF 390	9/1/12	J Murphy
MF 390	Back left indicator broken	Repaired indicator	18/2/12	J Murphy
Topper	PTO 'O' guard missing	Fit new PTO 'O' guard on topper	20/6/12	J Murphy
Cows	No calving gate for cows	Installed a new calving gate	7/10/13	J Murphy
Buildings	Swinging door to slatted shed can't be secured	Tie-back chain fitted to door of slatted hs	e 30/10/13	J Murphy
Portable Equipment	No proper PPE for chainsaw use	Purchased safety boots steel toecap & chainsav	with trousers	J Murphy
Electrical safety	poor lighting between cubicle house & silo	Installed LED IP65 floodlight on shed wa	 20/4/14	J Murphy
Chemical safety	No lock on chemical store	Fitted a new lock on chemical store door	18/6/14	J Murphy
Health risk	No vermin control	A control programme for rodents was put	e 30/1 in place J	1 /14 Murphy
				9£.

My Farm Safety Action List

Where your assessments have indicated safety controls that are missing you must show in the action list below what action you will take to put that control in place. This action should have a date for completion. When the control is in place the action should be signed off and the safety assessment changed to show that the control is now in place.

Safety Assessment	Safety Control Measures that are missing.	Action that I must take on my farm	Date	Sign
Sample:Machinery	PTOcover and '0' guard missing onVacuumtanker	Fit new cover and '0'guard to PTOonVacuum tanker (state the make)		J.Suttle
× /630				
- the second				
1. 2 - 18				
Lanna -				
1 C				
S. S. S.				

Machinery (Additional)

Machinery Risk Assessment		List all machiney used on the farm.				
I will ensure that:						
All safety guards/ devicesare fitted						
The PTO "O" guards are present.		- 6				
The hydraulic systemsand hoses are in good repair.						
All machinery defects are identified (list)					122	
Regular maintenance is carried out						
Safety Practices				2	- TO	
Machinery is only operated by competent operators.					Y	
The operator handbook where available is read and understood					M	
Hydraulic equipment issupported with an adequate prop						
during maintenance or repair (e.g. jack stands).						
The PTO and moving parts arestopped before					-	
attempting to free any machine blockage					1	
Passengers are not carried on machines						
unlessdesigned to do so.						
Loads are stable and well secured.						
Additional machinery controls used.						

There is a way to farm safely

Farm Safety Code of Practice Risk Assessment Document for Farms with three or less Employees

HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS 10 Hogan Place, Dublin 2 Tel. 1890 289 389 Fax: (01) 614 7020 website: www.hsa.ie

