

# HEALTH & SAFETY

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## ► EU – Farm Incident Stats

- Agriculture has the worst fatal incident record of all major employment sectors
- Ireland
- Over 550 fatal incidents in farming occur across the EU each year
- The rate for non-fatal incidents with more than 3 days absence is over 6000/100 000 workers
- 30% of injuries in agriculture happen during machinery maintenance and repair
- The average compensation cost for farm machinery injuries is € 3796 and the average lost work time is 32.6 days
- Tractor incidents are the most common cause of machine-related injuries on farms.
- A third of the tractor injuries are the result of jumping, slipping or falling from the tractor access point.



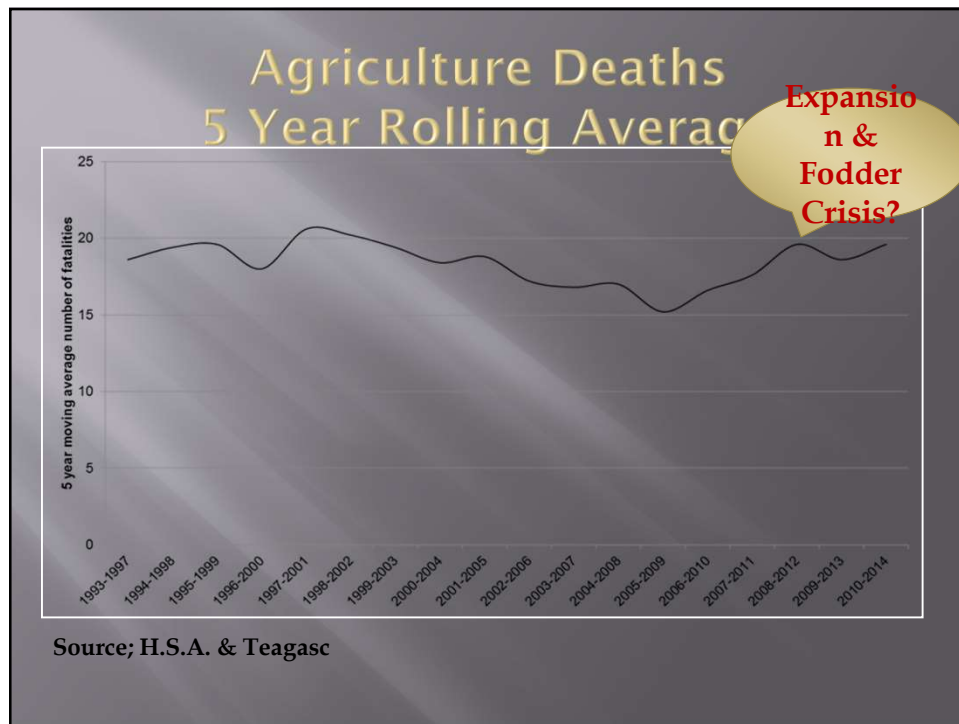
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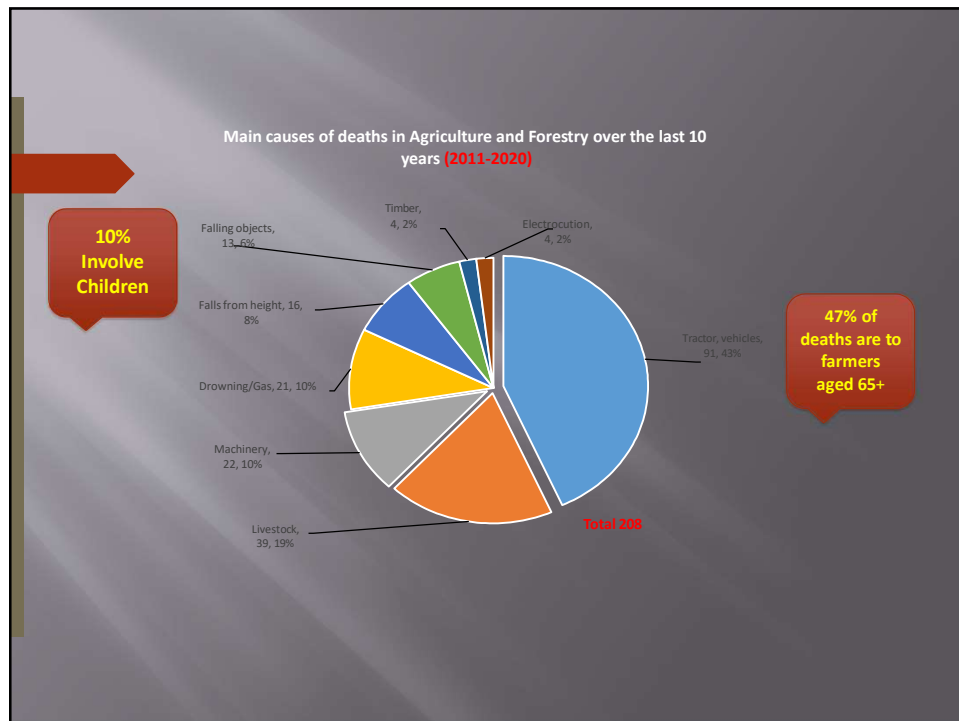
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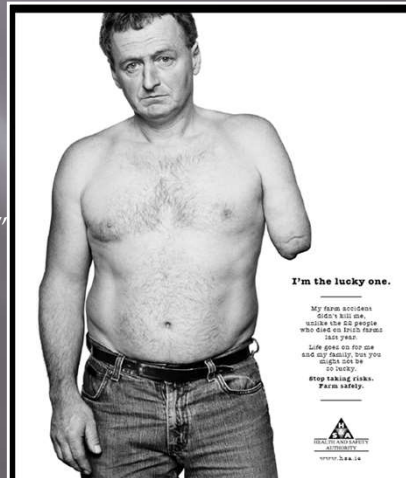
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## Consequences

- Tragedy
  - Pain & Suffering
  - Life-long Disability
- ▣ Will view "Survivor Stories" Testimonials later



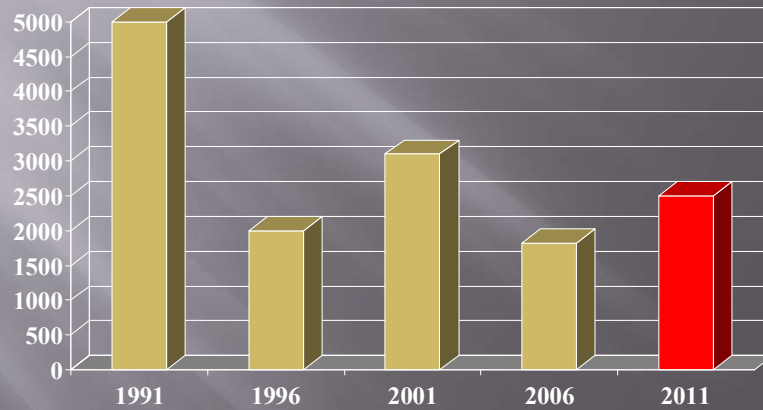
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## Trends in Fatal Accidents

Year	Farming	All sectors	% Farming
2010	10	43	46
2011	22	48	36
2012	20	56	29
2013	16	55	64
2014	30	47	16
2015	18	48	38

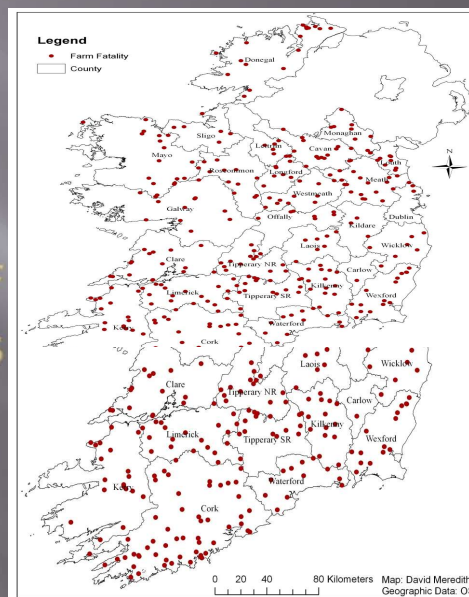
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## Trends in Farm Injuries ( Source: NFS)



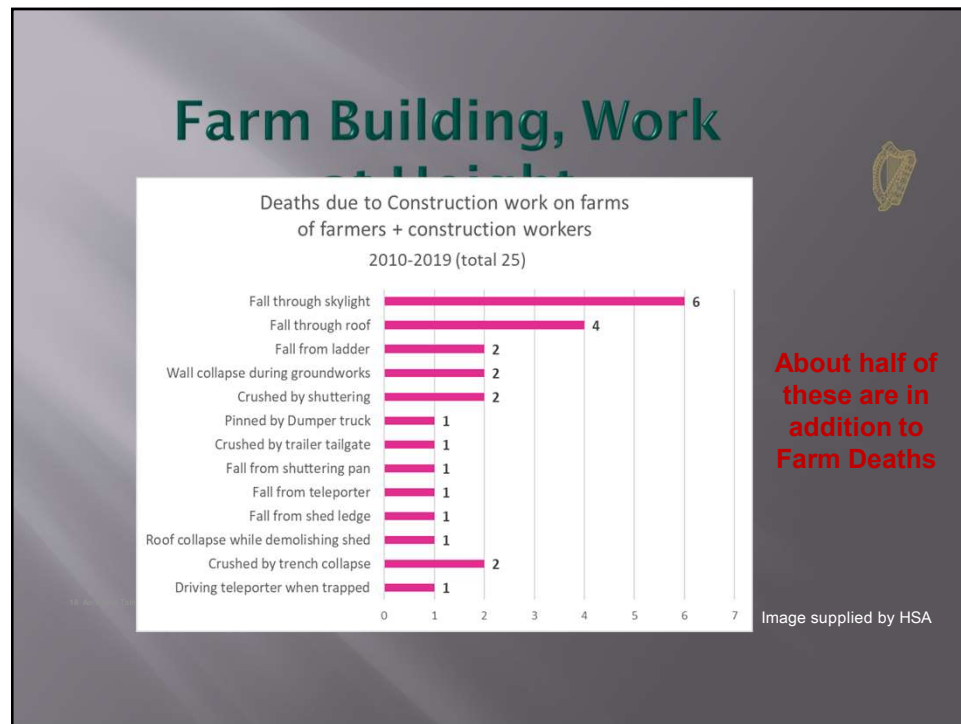
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## Spatial distribution of farm accidents

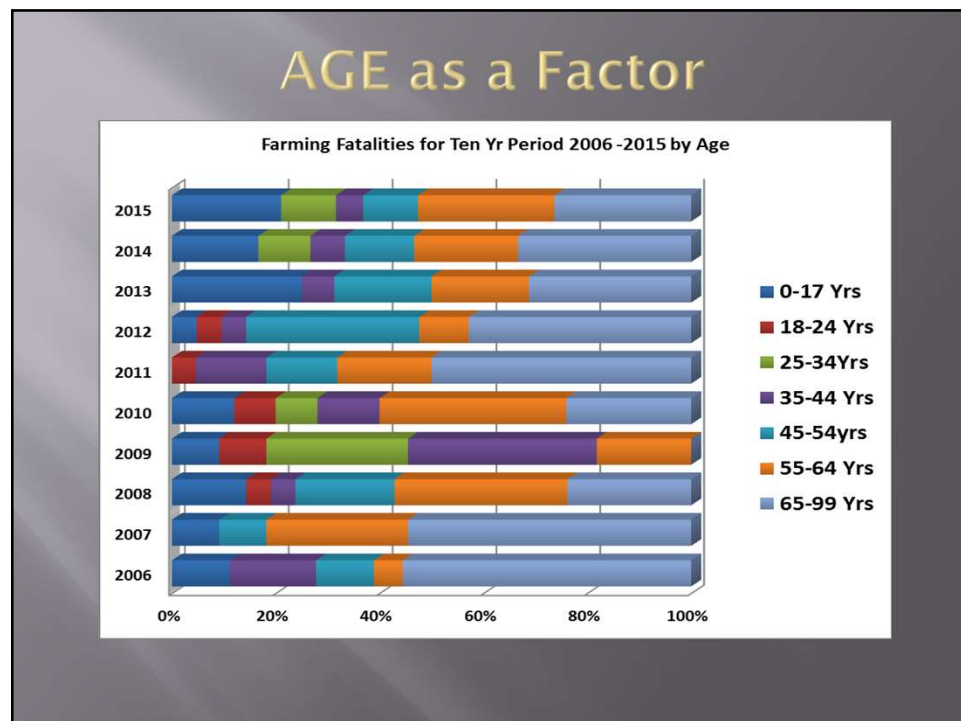


Distribution of Farm Fatalities 1993 - 2011

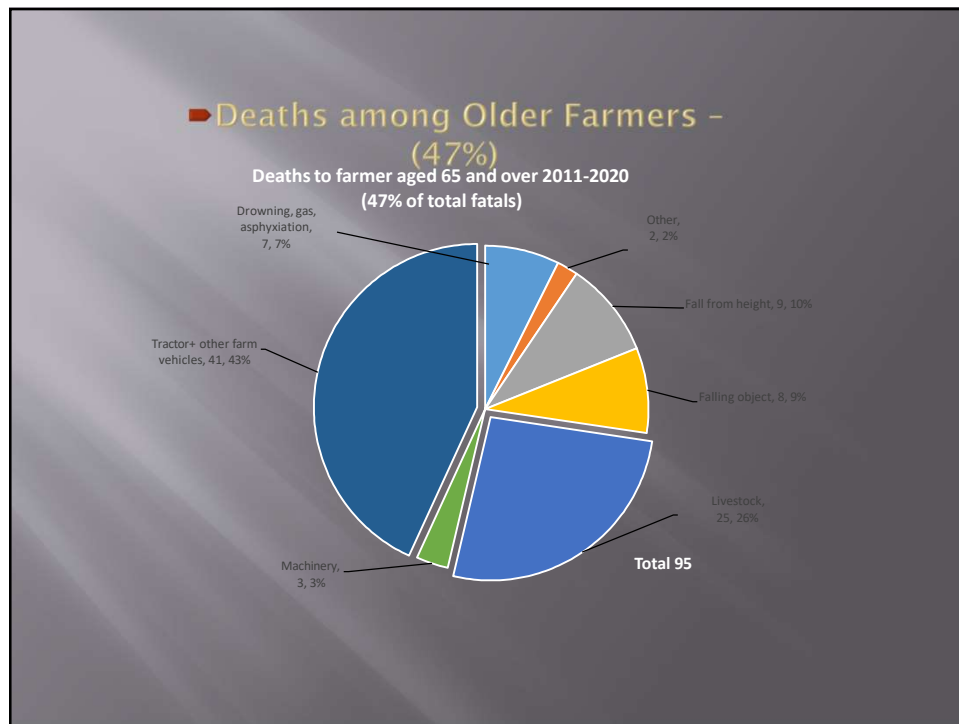
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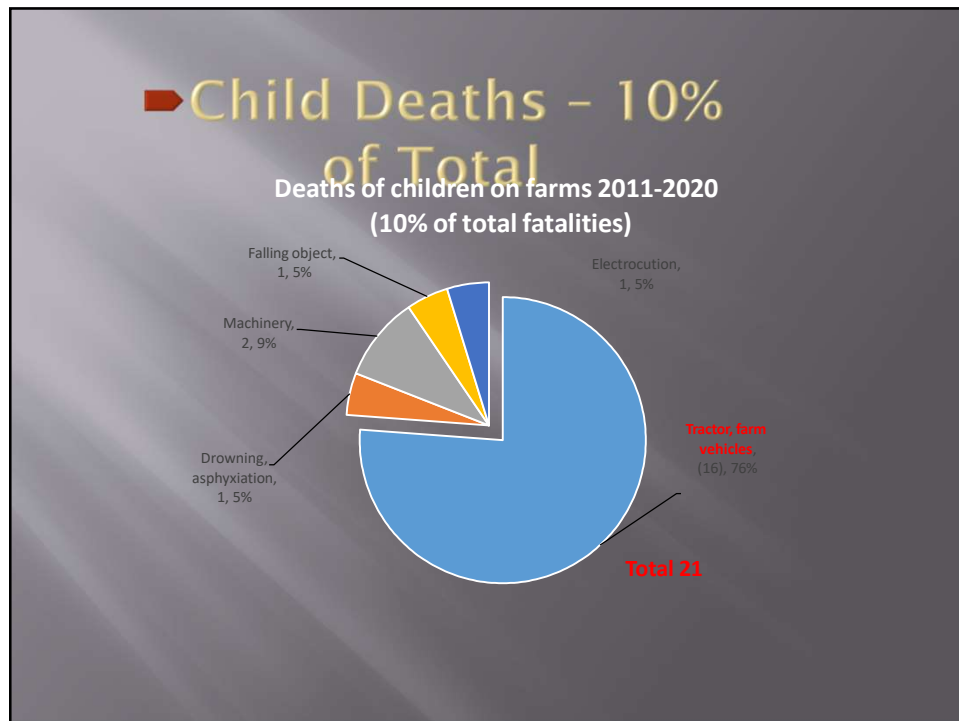
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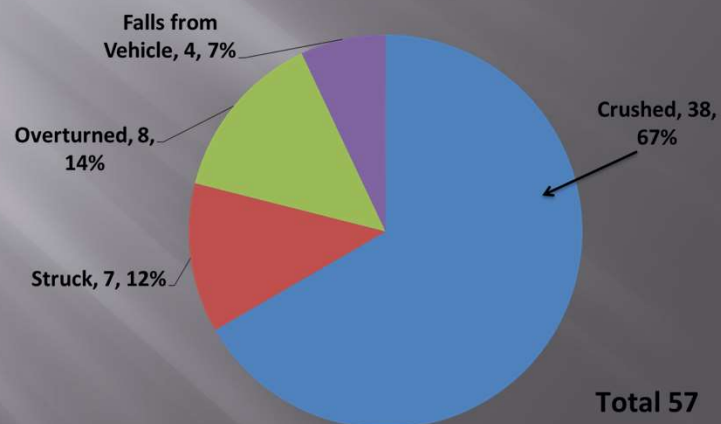
## Tractor Safety – Crush Zones



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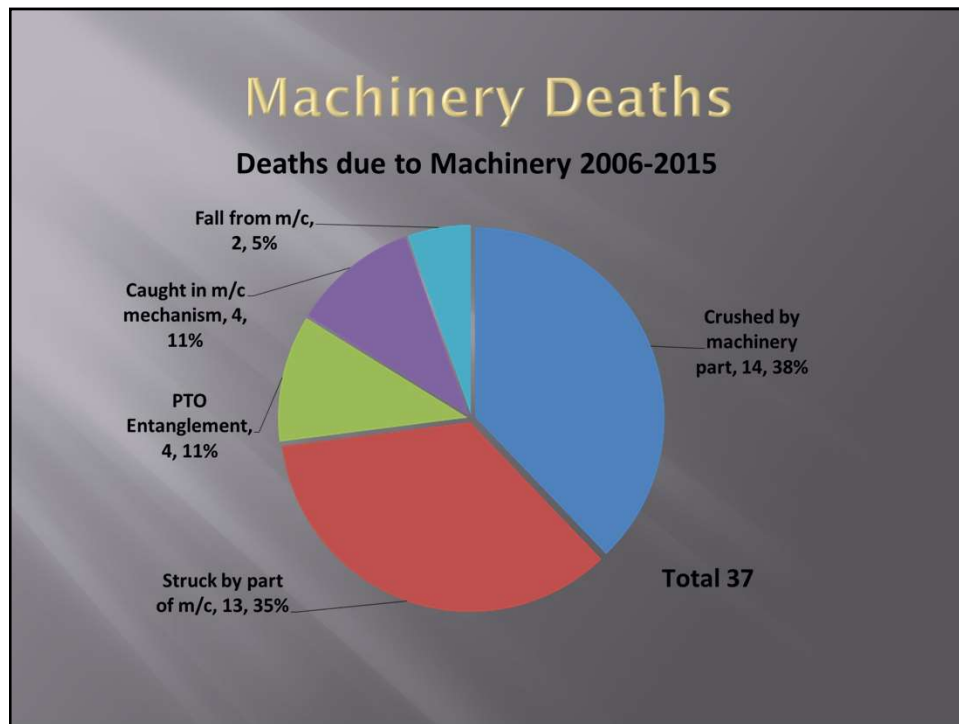
## Vehicle Deaths

Deaths due to Tractors and Farm Vehicles 2006 - 2015



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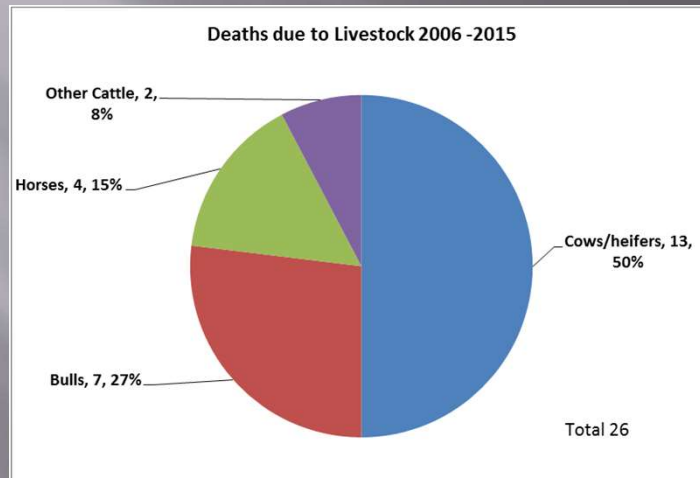


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## Livestock Deaths – Not just Bulls



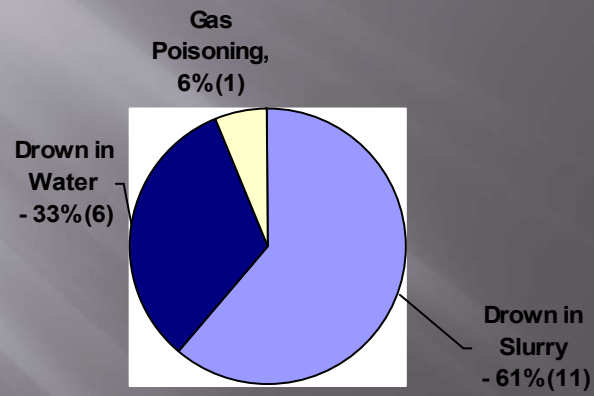
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## Livestock Safety



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## Slurry Deaths – Not just Gassing



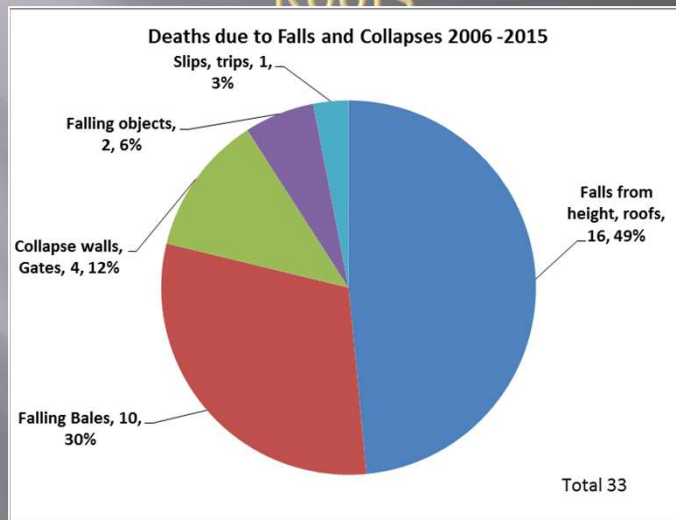
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## Fence Slurry



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## Deaths from Falls – Not just from Roofs



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## Fragile Roofs

“Assess what is Reasonably Practicable”



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## Farmers Health



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## Mortality among Farmers (Smyth et al., 2012)

Cause	Farmers 16 to 65yrs v's Blue collar
Death – any cause	X 4
Circulatory Disease	X 5
Cancer	X 3
Injuries ( inc poisoning)	x 7

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## Long-term Consequences – McGeady's Farm



Radio Ad



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## Farmers – With the Highest Risk Profile

- ▣ If you are a Dairy Farmer
- ▣ If you are a Full-time Dairy Farmer
- ▣ If you farm over 30 hectares
- ▣ If you are male



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## SO WHAT CAN WE DO TO STAY SAFE?

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**Use the COP & follow this COP  
Training**



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## Safety Proofing Your Farm

- ▣ Invest in Yourself
- ▣ Take care of your Physical and Mental Health
- ▣ Up-skill on the management of all aspects of your farm enterprise.
- ▣ Efficiency & time management in everything is crucial.
- ▣ Use technology & contracting as much as possible.
- ▣ Actively Manage Safety – dedicate specific time to this!
- ▣ Ensure you are fully competent with all your machinery.

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## Safety Proofing Your Farm

- ▣ Understand and protect yourself from Livestock Risks
- ▣ Continuous Education - COP Training, Discussion Groups
- ▣ Complete & Keep COP Risk Assessment up to date.
- ▣ Check your farm once a week for risk & put things right.
- ▣ Consider safety requirements in every job.
- ▣ Change Risky Behaviour – Stop rushing, stop taking risks

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## Tractor Maintenance

- ▣ The first step is to ensure that the tractor is in a sound and trustworthy condition.
- ▣ Controls – these should all be in working order and clearly marked

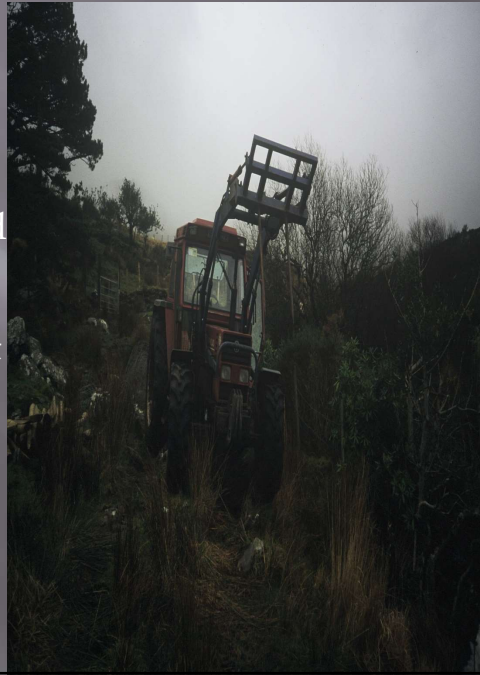
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- ▣ Cab condition – cab or safety frame
- ▣ Good seat



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- ▣ Brakes – these should be in sound working order, balanced and interlocked, except for field work. A properly functioning handbrake is a must.



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## Tractor Maintenance (cont'd)

- ▣ PTO – ensure that the PTO can be turned on and off



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- ▣ The tractor must be fitted with a 'U' guard, the PTO shaft fitted with a sleeve, and the trailed machine fitted with an 'O' guard.



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## Tractor Maintenance

- ▣ Road Usage – ensure that mirrors, indicators, lights and wipers are in working order.



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## Safety with Livestock

- ❑ All animals can be dangerous. Keep the temperament of animals, especially bulls under constant review.
- ❑ Ensure that children in particular are safe when cattle are being herded.
- ❑ Bulls should have a ring and trailing chain attached (2m. approx). Where a bull is present, place a warning sign at field entrances with public access.



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## Display Warning Signs



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- ▣ Check that your livestock handling housing and loading facilities are safe and easy to use.



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## Slurry Pits

- Ensure that all slurry and effluent tanks are fenced or covered.



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## No Fence !



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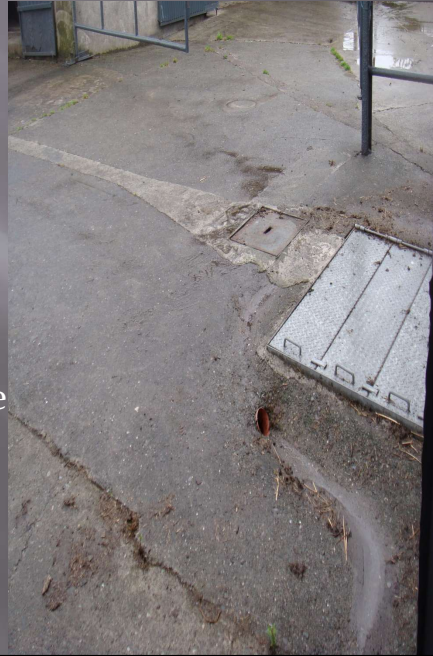
## Slatted Tanks

- ❑ Only agitate and move slurry when there is a lot of air movement. Evacuate all livestock from sheds. Open all doors and outlets
- ❑ Hydrogen Sulphide gas- Odourless
- ❑ So Poisonous one smell will kill you.



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- ▣ Adding silage effluent to slurry greatly increases the level of poisonous hydrogen sulphide gas produced.



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## Warning Signage



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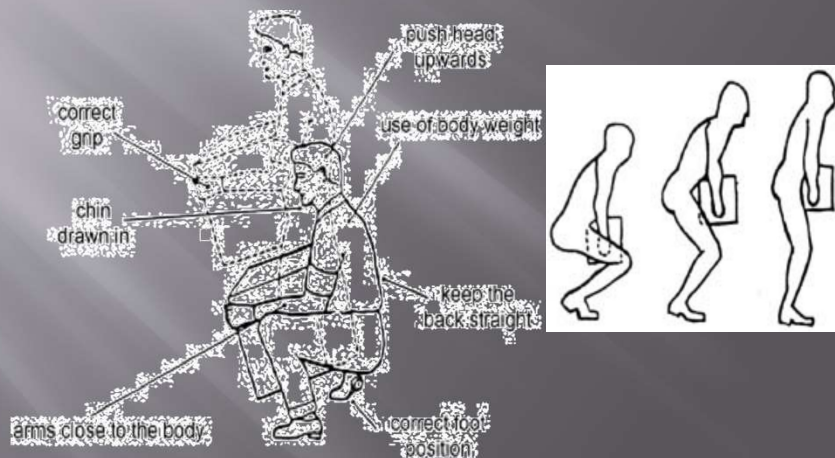
## Lifting and Carrying

- Prevent back injuries by using mechanical methods of lifting, e.g. loaders, hydraulic jacks, trolleys, wheels under heavy farmyard gates.



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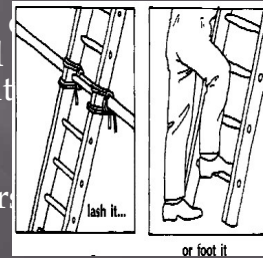
## Lifting and Carrying (cont'd)



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## Trips, Falls and Blows

- ▣ Keep all walkways and work areas free of tripping hazards. Rushing is the cause of many accidents – work at a steady pace.
- ▣ When gaining access to heights, use a sound and properly secured ladder. Never walk on a fragile roof, use adequately supported crawler boards or roofing ladders. Ensure that lofts and stairways are sound and have adequate guard rails fitted.
- ▣ Fit sliding doors or ensure that doors can be secured. Heavy swinging doors or gates are highly dangerous, especially in windy conditions.



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## Distribution of Farmers with Longstanding Health Problems by Type

Type	Nos.	%
Back Problem	1,900	21.0
Heart / Blood Pressure	1,900	21.0
Arms / Legs / Feet	1,400	15.0
Respiratory	1,300	14.0
Diabetes	600	6.0
Mental Problems	500	5.0
Stomach / Liver / Kidney	400	4.5
Eyesight	300	3.0
Other	1,000	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,300</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: CSO, Quarterly Household Survey 2002

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## Children

- ▣ Look out for and eliminate particular hazards to children on your farm.
- ▣ Provide a safe and secure play area for young children.
- ▣ Supervise young people working on your farm. A young person must be 14 years old to operate a tractor on the farm and over 16 years of age to do so on public roads. Read the Health and Safety Authority guidelines on child safety on farms.

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## High Risk



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## Dangerous Parking



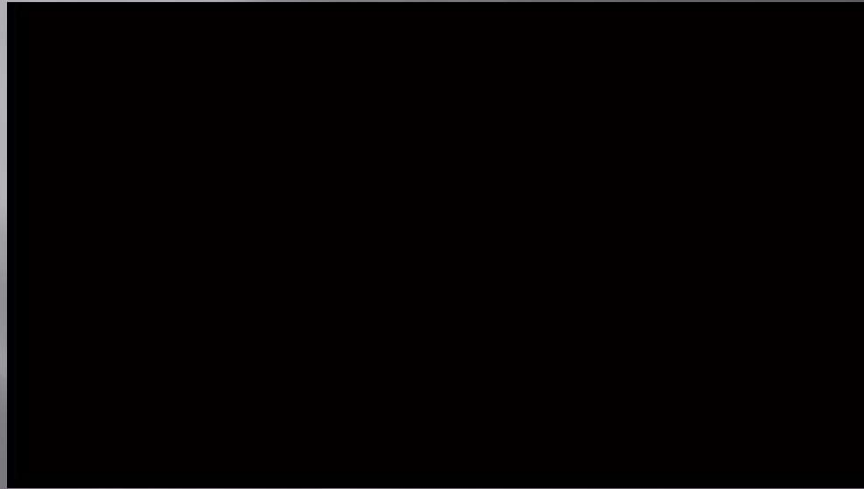
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## TAMS Safety Grants -40%/60%

- ▣ Safety Rails on Silo Walls €22.30/m
- ▣ Replacement of a hinged doors with a new sliding door / roller door €89.20/m<sup>2</sup>
- ▣ Retrofitting Single roof-light with safety cages per clear light €40.90
- ▣ Rewiring existing farm building €6.70/m<sup>2</sup>
- ▣ Yard Lights (metal halide or LCD) item €237.50

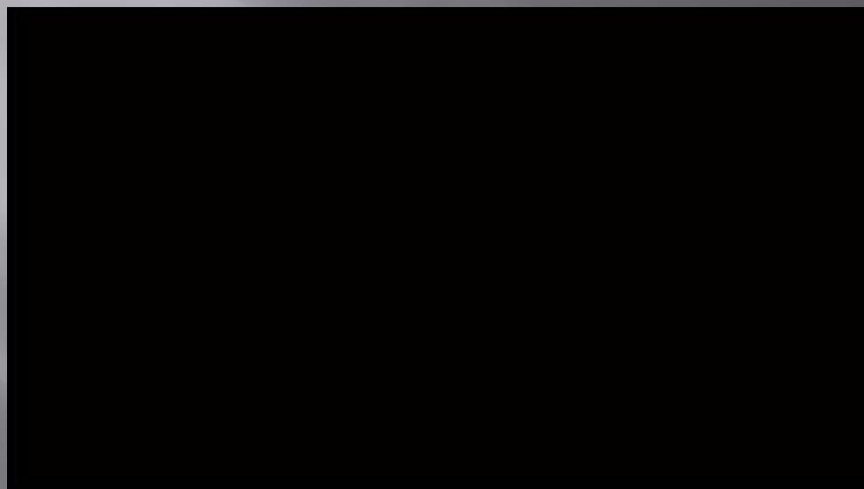
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## Survivor Story 4



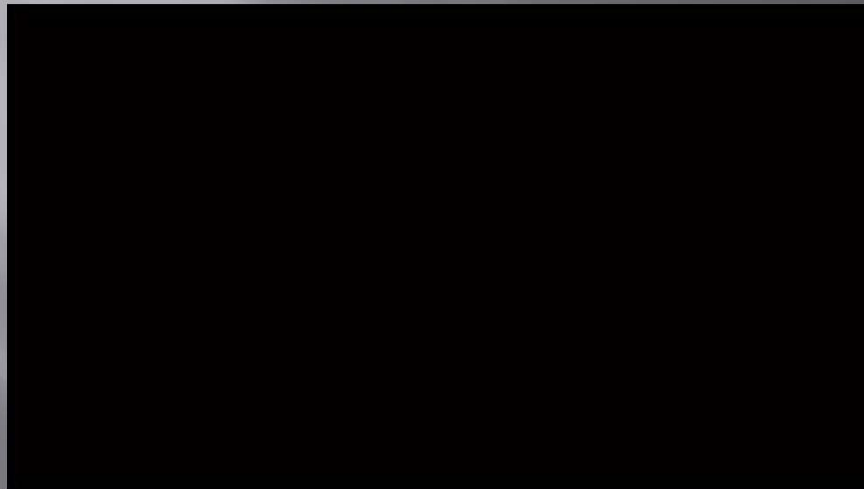
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## Survivor Story 5



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## Survivor Story 6



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