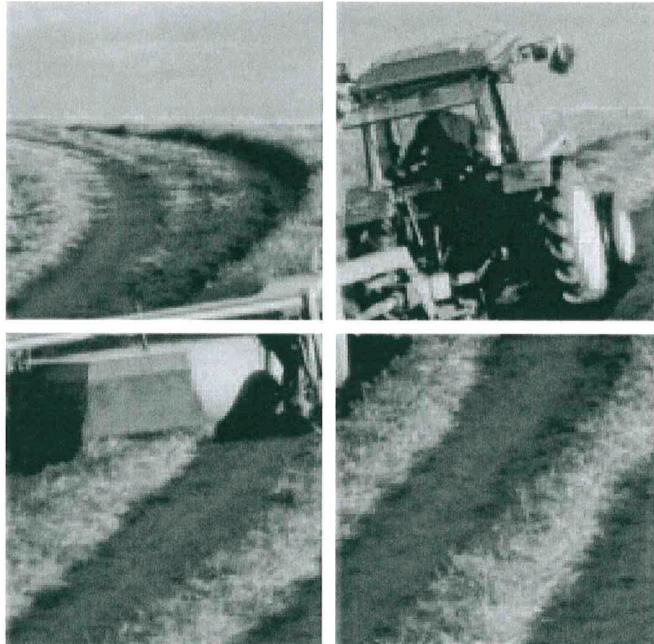




FARM SAFETY CODE OF PRACTICE

RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT



www.hsa.ie

FOR FARMS WITH THREE OR LESS EMPLOYEES

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 LESS EMPLOYEES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

FARM ENTERPRISES: _____

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 – RISK ASSESSMENT

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 protect them from injury.
- Use safe systems of work.
- Provide all machine guards, protective equipment, information, training, and supervision necessary to protect 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: _____

Date: _____

Tractors, Farm Vehicles and ATV's.

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

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

Machinery

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

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

Livestock

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

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

Farmyard and Buildings

Farmyard, Buildings and Slurry Risk Assessment	List Farmyards and Farm Buildings				
<i>I will ensure that:</i>					
Farmyard and surfaces are tidy and in good repair.					
Buildings are tidy and in good repair					
Safety rails are in place where there is the possibility of a fall.					
A safe means of access to heights is used (e.g. stairs , work platform, ladder)					
Roof work is only undertaken with a proper roof ladder/crawling boards.					
Swinging doors can be secured.					
Suitable fire safety equipment is available					
Exits onto public roads are safe.					
All visible defects in the farmyard and buildings are identified. (List defects on control sheet).					
Slurry/water					
Open slurry/water tanks are fenced to a height of 1.9meters and secured (including gates) to prevent access.					
Access points to slatted tanks are kept secured.					
During slurry agitation open access points are guarded.					
Evacuation and ventilation takes place before agitation of slurry.					
Manhole covers are replaced.					
List additional farmyard and buildings controls identified.					

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

Workshop / Repairs / Working with Timber

Portable and Fixed Equipment Safety Assessment (Examples: Portable equipment – angle grinder, welder, power washer; Fixed equipment -- air compressor, hoist)	List the portable and fixed equipment used on the farm.				
<i>I will ensure that:</i>					
The equipment is only operated by competent operators.					
All safety devices are in place and are in working order.					
Correct Personal Protective Equipment as specified by the manufacturer is used.					
Manufacturer's operation manuals are available and used.					
All visible defects in portable and fixed equipment are identified. (List defects on control sheet).					
Proper PPE is available and put on before using equipment or chainsaws.					
Chainsaws					
The chainsaw is fitted with a full range of safety devices including a chain brake and a safety chain.					
Timber to be cut is adequately secured and supported.					
Tree felling is carried out by a competent person.					
List additional portable and fixed equipment controls identified.					

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

Electricity

Electricity Safety Assessment <i>I will ensure that:</i>	List all the areas where electrical circuits are installed.				
Electrical installations are inspected and maintained by a competent electrician.					
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.					
A main fuse protects the total electrical installation.					
All sockets are protected by a 30mA RCD on 220/380V circuits and checked monthly.					
110V portable electrical equipment is used in building work.					
An electrical welder is supplied by a 32A welding socket.					
Adequate lighting is provided in each area of the farmyard.					
All visible defects in electrical installations are identified. (List defects on control sheet).					
Electricity Networks					
Contractors and suppliers coming on the farm are made aware of overhead power lines and installations.					
High machinery and loads only travel under overhead power lines where there is adequate clearance					
List additional electrical controls identified.					

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

Chemical Safety Assessment

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

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

Health of Farmers

Health Risk Assessment	List areas/activities where risk is high				
<i>I will ensure that:</i>					
Preventing Back Injury.					
Mechanical aids are used to reduce manual handling.					
Where possible the size and weight of the load is reduced before manual handling.					
All loads are assessed before lifting.					
Dust and Spores.					
Generation of dust and spores is kept to a minimum.					
Adequate ventilation is provided.					
A suitable dust respirator (P2 or P3) is used where dust or spore levels cannot be fully controlled.					
Preventing Infection.					
Hand washing facilities with soap and towels are available in the farmyard.					
Suitable gloves are worn when handling potentially infectious material					
Cuts and abrasions are covered with a water proof plaster.					
A vermin control programme is in place.					
Noise. (List areas/activities where the risk is high)					
Ways of reducing noise exposure have been considered.					
Suitable hearing protection is always worn where there is exposure to high noise levels.					
Stress/ Personal Health					
A regular health check by a health professional is undertaken.					
Protection from the sun is used.					
Confidential advice is sought for health related conditions					
A First Aid Box is available on the farm					
Additional identified controls.					

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

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	PTO cover and 'O' guard missing on Vacuum tanker	Fit new cover and 'O'guard to PTO on Vacuum tanker (state the make)		J.Suttle

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