

Most jobs on the farm can be made easier with tools, the trick is using them safely so the risk doesn't out weigh the benefit.

The farm is a place where many tools are used to make farming easier. Tools allow us to accomplish more work easier and few of us would want to give them up.

Hand tools, like shovels and hammers, make an extremely laborous task a little less work. Power tools using electricity or batteries make the job even easier.

Unfortunately, these wonderful aides can also be dangerous to those using them and those in proximity if used improperly. All tools pose some amount of danger, but electric hand tools have the added danger of speed, power, and electrical currents that can shock and even kill when not used properly.

Teaching proper use of hand tools and the precautions that are necessary for their safe use is an excellent way to teach safety before moving on to safe power tool use.

You can avoid accidents and health problems if you:

- ▶ Pick the right tool for the job
- ▶ Replace or repair damaged tools
- ▶ Take your time when using hand tools
- ▶ Make sure cords of power tools are in good condition
- ▶ Wear personal protective equipment like ear plugs, dust masks, and safety glasses
- ▶ Make sure all shields are in good shape to prevent flying debris and protect from moving parts
- ▶ Train young workers proper safety procedures

Remember tools can be a real help when working on the farm. They can also be very harmful if not used with respect.



Power tools can make jobs on the farm much easier. Just take a few simple precautions to keep yourself safe.

