



For Immediate Release

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Protecting the Future Generation of Farmers During Harvest



Birmingham, Ala. (September 18, 2016) – Every three days a child dies and every day 33 children are injured due to agriculture-related incidents. Because fall harvest is a peak time for injuries, here are three reminders to help protect children during one of the busiest times of the year.

1. Review all on-farm safety procedures.

- Ensure children know how to properly use farm equipment before assigning them to any farm task. Make sure they know what to do in the event of a fire, severe weather and other emergency situations. Instruct them to dial 911 in case of an emergency and make certain they know the physical address of the farm.
- Model safe behavior with farm equipment. Do not permit extra riders on tractors and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and never allow children to play near grain bins.

2. **Establish rules for visitors, and supervise all children closely.**
 - Families not familiar with farming who visit the farmstead may not understand safe practices regarding animals, chemicals and equipment. Establish and enforce rules for all visitors to avoid farm-related incidents.
 - Supervision is important for all children, especially for those unfamiliar with farming. Make the play area more fun than the farmstead and ensure children can be monitored from this area at all times.

3. **Use personal protective equipment to prevent health issues in adulthood.**
 - Skin cancer is often linked to severe sunburns and sun exposure during childhood. Provide children with sunscreen and wide-brimmed hats when in the sun.
 - Encourage use of hearing protection to help prevent hearing loss due to exposure to loud noises often found on the farm.

For more tips on keeping children safe and healthy on the farm and at home, visit www.progressiveag.org.

ABOUT PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE FOUNDATION

The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program, the largest rural safety and health education program for children in North America, is a program of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF), a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation. The foundation's mission is to provide education, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities. In 2008, PAF was awarded the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance National Charity Seal, demonstrating its commitment to accountability and ethical practices. Safety Day applications are due each July 15 for Safety Days that will be conducted the following calendar year. For more information, please visit <http://www.progressiveag.org>.

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Editorial Note: The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® logo and Safety Day photos are available upon request by calling (888) 257-3529.

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