

The UMASH Connection Farms and People

A newsletter of the Upper Midwest
Agricultural Safety and Health Center



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Upper Midwest
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and Health Center
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ONE HEALTH IN
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BRIDGING THE GAP IN IMMIGRANT DAIRY WORKER SAFETY TRAINING

As the size and concentration of dairy production has increased, so too has the diversity of the workforce. The goal of the *Seguridad en las lecherías* project was to address language barriers and training needs of immigrant workers in dairy production by testing a culturally and linguistically appropriate occupational safety and health intervention to reduce worksite hazards and to improve knowledge and practices among immigrant dairy workers.

Through extensive input from producers, workers, health and safety professionals and researchers, this project developed an **OSHA-approved five-module, bilingual health and safety training curriculum**. Sixty-seven farms were enrolled in the project and 836 immigrant workers were trained. On about half of the farms the researchers also tested a community health worker or *Promotores de Salud* model. Working with the farmer, one of the workers was selected and trained to directly help their co-workers by providing reminders about safety procedures, answering questions and serving as a liaison between the farmer and farm workers.

Initial findings show that farms with the onsite safety *Promotores* are successful in creating change. Farmers and workers feel the model helped improve safety on the farm; *Promotores* felt the monthly walkthrough reduced farm hazards.

Over 40 requests for the training curriculum have already been received from organizations across the US and other countries. While the researchers complete the analysis, they are also talking with organizations about hosting the training modules long-term so they remain publicly available.

The *Seguridad en las lecherías* project was conducted by UMASH researchers at the Migrant Clinician Network (MCN) and the National Farm Medicine Center. Lessons learned from their project were also presented at the 2016 UMASH Annual Forum.

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"I've worked here 7 years and never learned how to work safely around cows."
Immigrant dairy worker

"We want [our farm] to be known as a safe place to work. This program has been very helpful to us."
Farm owner, participant in the Seguridad project

"This program has been incredibly, incredibly important to so many different farms, and I really, really hope that they can extend the reach to even some small family farms."
Agricultural safety trainer for Seguridad project

LEARN MORE...

Migrant Clinicians Network

MCN has over 30 years of experience addressing the health and safety needs of immigrant workers and their families.

⇒ [Learn More](#)

2016 UMASH Annual Forum

View Amy Liebman's presentation from the Annual Forum: **Promoting Health and Well-being in the Immigrant Workforce in Agriculture.**

⇒ [Learn More](#)

2016 UMASH ANNUAL FORUM

The 2016 UMASH Annual Forum entitled *"Promoting Health and Wellbeing in the Immigrant Workforce in Agriculture"* was held at the Cargill Building on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus on September 29, 2016. Approximately forty-five attendees came together for two keynote presentations, a panel discussion with a Q & A session, and a research poster session. UMASH project teams also showcased a variety of training and education products, such as bilingual dairy worker curriculum, dairy stockmanship training videos and barn posters, needlestick prevention videos and factsheets, and agritourism training and education resources.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS:

- » **Cross-Cultural Communication Best Practices**
Lillian McDonald, *ECHO Founder; Managing Director, TPT/ECHO*
- » **Immigrant Workers in Dairy**
Amy Liebman, MPA, MA, *Director, Environmental and Occupational Health, Migrant Clinician Network*

ADDITIONAL PANELISTS:

- » Gerardo Guerrero, Consulado de México, Saint Paul Consulate
- » Deb Reinhart, Wisconsin dairy farmer; Executive Director, Professional Dairy Producers Foundation
- » Jeff Bender, DVM, MS (*moderator*), Co-Director, UMASH: Professor, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine



Missed the Forum?
View keynote presentations at:
umash.umn.edu/2016-annual-forum

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

"I appreciated hearing some of the challenges encountered in promoting health and safety."

"The presenters, the panel discussion and networking were all valuable."

"I appreciated hearing the stories from the farmers and researchers on what life is like for immigrant workers."

2016 NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

Once again UMASH and the other nine U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers collaborated to spotlight agricultural health and safety with a variety of resources for farm workers, their families and everyone involved in agriculture. *Farm Safety..A Legacy to be Proud Of* was the theme for the 2016 National Farm Safety and Health Week (FSHW).

UMASH participated in promoting FSHW across social media especially through the **U.S. AgCenters' YouTube channel** which hosts more than 90 videos on a variety of topics related to agriculture, forestry and fishing.

This year's campaign was also highlighted on the NIOSH Science Blog: blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2016/09/19/farm-safety-week-2016/



Minnesota Lt. Governor Tina Smith joined Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Commissioner Dave Frederickson, Representative Paul Anderson, and farmer/ag educator/FFA leader Ed Terry to declare September 18-24 Minnesota Farm Safety and Health Week and talk about the new Minnesota Rollover Protection System (ROPS) rebate program. UMASH is partnering with the MDA to promote the ROPS program.

Learn more about FSHW and access featured agricultural safety resources at:
umash.umn.edu/nfshw-2016

ROLLOVER PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE (ROPS) REBATE PROGRAMS

National Tractor Safety Programs available in Minnesota and Wisconsin

Tractor accidents were the number one cause of death, accounting for more than 1,700 fatalities among U.S. farmworkers since 2003. A rollover protective structure (ROPS) is an operator compartment structure (usually cab or rollbar) intended to protect farmers from injuries caused by rollovers. A ROPS, when used with a seat belt, is 99 percent effective in preventing injury or death in the event of an overturn.

Thankfully, farmers in Minnesota and Wisconsin have access to a rebate program that will defray the cost of a ROPS and make their tractor safer.



umash.umn.edu/rops-national-tractor-safety-programs

WISCONSIN ROPS REBATE PROGRAM

Since the program was established in 2013, more than 170 Wisconsin tractors have been retrofitted with this life-saving apparatus. The WI ROPS Rebate Program is administered through the National Farm Medicine Center at the Marshfield Clinic in Marshfield WI. Philanthropic support from the Auction of Champions has made the WI rebate program possible.

MINNESOTA ROPS REBATE PROGRAM

In July 2016, the Minnesota legislature approved funding for a tractor safety program to help Minnesota farmers add rollover protection to older tractors. The Minnesota ROPS Rebate Program is administered through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and is the seventh state to offer such a program.

Minnesota and Wisconsin tractor owners can apply via the ROPS hotline 1-877-767-7748 (1-877-ROPSR4U, Option 2), or the website www.ropsr4u.com

The National Tractor Safety Coalition (NTSC), a multi-sector workgroup formed in May 2014 is currently working to reduce tractor overturn fatalities through the expansion of current ROPS Rebate Programs. For more info, visit: www.nycamhoutreach.com/ropsr4u/national-rebate-program

UMASH FUNDED FOR 2016-2021

The Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH) has been awarded funding from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for an additional five years. **The following new research projects were funded in our renewal. Watch for updates about these projects in the near future!**

Optimizing Assessment of Virus-Containing Particles in Animal Agriculture

Peter Raynor, PI

School of Public Health, University of Minnesota

Rural Firefighters Delivering Agricultural Safety and Health (RF-DASH)

Casper G. Bendixsen, PI

National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation

Longitudinal Study of Infectious Disease Risks at the Human-Swine Interface

Peter Davies, PI

College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota

Surveillance for Zoonotic Diseases in Agricultural Workers in Minnesota

Kirk Smith, P

Minnesota Department of Health

UMASH is one of ten Centers of Excellence in Agricultural Disease and Injury Research, Education, and Prevention funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) throughout the United States. Funding is provided through a cooperative agreement from NIOSH, U54OH010170 (2009-2021).

AGRITOURISM RESOURCES

Agritourism - activities that bring visitors to the farm - is growing in popularity across the nation. It can be a great way for farmers to add supplemental income but it does come with an additional set of responsibilities. Protecting the safety of farm visitors is important for both the visitors and for farms hosting these events.

UMASH, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Health, has developed a variety of resources to help farmers and agritourism operators keep their visitors safe.

**** NEW VIDEO ****

Agritourism: Prepare and Plan for Guests on Your Farm



This video and other agritourism resources are available at: umash.umn.edu/agritourism



UPCOMING EVENTS

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH) 2016

November 15-16

Sioux Center, Iowa

Agritourism Workshop

November 16

Burnsville, Minnesota

Agritourism Workshop

November 17

Shoreview, Minnesota

Minnesota Farm Bureau Meeting

November 17

Minneapolis, Minnesota

National Rural Health Day 2016

November 17

AgriSafe Network Webinar:

Promoting Total Farmer Health

November 17 @ 11am

AgriSafe Network Webinar:

Integration of Behavioral Health within Agricultural Health Care

December 7 @ 12pm

Learn more and view full event list at: umash.umn.edu/upcoming-events

AG HEALTH AND SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

The Ag Health and Safety Spotlight highlights personal stories and experiences from farm families, workers, and researchers in the field to give an inside look at emerging issues in agricultural safety and health.

RECENT SPOTLIGHT STORIES:

- » Ag Injury News Clippings Database: Characterizing Events in the Upper Midwest
- » An Ode to Research Participants
- » Seguridad - Translating Research to Practice

Read the latest SPOTLIGHT stories at:

umash.umn.edu/ag-health-and-safety-spotlight

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