

Nurture

Quarterly Newsletter of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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Note to readers

We are switching to e-mail distribution of Nurture. You will receive the next newsletter (August 2007) in paper form, but starting with November 2007, the newsletter will be distributed electronically. To facilitate this, we request you please send your name and e-mail address to nccrahs@mcrf.mfddclin.edu and type "Nurture" in the subject line. E-mail addresses will not be shown in the "To" box, and we will not share your address. If you do not have regular access to e-mail, please call 1-800-662-6900 and tell us that you still want a paper copy. Thank you.

Research identifies impact of labor law exemptions on family farm youth

The number of children killed while working on their family farm could be reduced by 60 percent if current child labor laws were uniformly applied and enforced across the agriculture sector, according to a study published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Federal child labor laws are intended to protect young workers from the most dangerous jobs. But parents who have their children working on family farms are exempt from applying these laws to their children.

"We would prevent many of the most serious agricultural injuries – those resulting in death or hospitalizations – by removing the 'family farm exemption' from the U.S. Federal Child Labor Laws, Hazardous Occupations Orders for Agriculture, and raising the age restriction for performing hazardous agricultural work to 18 years to be consistent with other industries," said lead author Barbara Marlena, Ph.D., research scientist with the National Children's Center.

Dr. Marlena, with Queen's University researchers Rob Brison, M.D., and Will Pickett, Ph.D., examined childhood farm



injuries in the United States and Canada, which share similar agricultural practices. This study focused on children who were known to be working on their family farm at the time of injury.

The researchers systematically applied the Hazardous Occupations Orders for Agriculture to each of the 286 injured working children in their study. Preventability of each injury event was estimated. There were 37 deaths in this group and it was found that 60 percent of these deaths could have been prevented. In addition, the study found that 47 percent of the serious injuries that led to hospitalization could have been prevented as well. Most of the deaths and hospitalizations in these injured children involved tractors and other farm machinery.



National Children's Center
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

"The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety strives to enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments."

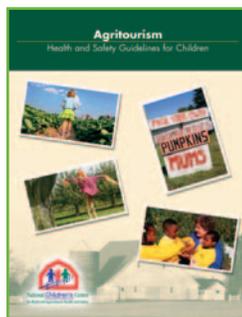
Mini grant funds available 2007-08

The National Children's Center is once again making funds available to support small-scale projects and pilot studies that address prevention of childhood agricultural disease and injury. Organizations throughout the United States are eligible to apply for grants totaling up to \$15,000. Community-based organizations are encouraged to apply. Funded projects are intended to strengthen partnerships between safety professionals, agricultural organizations and media, or translate research findings into practice.

Visit <http://marshfieldclinic.org/nfmc/>, click on the National Children's Center icon, then click on "Key Projects" and select "Mini-grants" from the directory on the lefthand side. For additional information contact Marlene Stueland at 1-800-662-6900 or stueland.marlene@mcrf.mfldclin.edu.

Agritourism health, safety resource now available

"Agritourism: Health and Safety Guidelines for Children" is a new, user-friendly resource written for agritourism operators large and small; and for long-term operations as well as farmers who might host a one-time event. The full-color, 37-page guidelines booklet was published by the National Children's Center with funds from NIOSH. The guidelines are the first to be developed applying specifically to children. The booklet includes tips on identifying and reducing hazards found on farms, such as those involving animals, water, machinery and hygiene. Convenient checklists help owners implement recommendations before visits by agritourists. The guidelines are available at www.marshfieldclinic.org/agritourism, by contacting the National Children's Center at 1-800-662-6900, 715-389-4999, or by e-mailing nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu.



Journalists Workshop heads to Kentucky

"Children and Agriculture: Telling the Story," is scheduled for July 13-14 in Lexington, Kentucky. The National Children's Center's 1 1/2-day workshop is a story-generating event that brings together child safety advocates, farm health researchers, agricultural producers and journalists for discussion and field trips. This year's workshop will focus on protecting children from injuries involving tractors/machinery and large animals. Co-hosting the fourth annual workshop is the NIOSH Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention, along with the University of Kentucky's College of Public Health, College of Communications and Information Studies, and School of Journalism and Telecommunications. For information, go to <http://marshfieldclinic.org/nfmc/> and click on the "Education" link in the lefthand directory. Or call workshop director Scott Heiberger at 1-800-662-6900, and press 7.

New CME course features organophosphate pesticides, child health



A new Web-based CME course offers health care providers and the public current scientific information regarding health risks for children exposed to Organophosphate Pesticides (OP) pesticides. This information is needed to understand the known, and sometimes uncertain, health risks to pediatric patients. This course offers 2 Category 1 credits to physicians, and is open to anyone interested in increasing their competency to recognize and respond to childhood pesticide-related illnesses. Organophosphate Pesticides and Child Health: A Primer for Health Care Providers, visit: <http://depts.washington.edu/pehsu/pesticide/>. This curriculum was developed by the Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health (PNASH) Center and the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU).

National Children's Center director to co-chair new federal workplace safety research council

Barbara Lee, Ph.D., has been named co-chair of the newly established National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) sector council on Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing. Dr. Lee will work closely with NIOSH Agriculture Program Leader George Conway, M.D., M.P.H., to assure an open and effective process for developing and implementing a strategic plan for agriculture, fishing and forestry workplace safety research. The council is comprised of 30 stakeholders representing agricultural business, producers, migrant workers, safety professionals and NIOSH representatives. Corresponding members of the Council will provide guidance on specific research topics. TheAgFF Sector Council web page can be

I-CASH occupational health training June 11-15

Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH) will host a training program for health care professionals who treat and help prevent occupational illnesses and injuries on the farm. The Agricultural Occupational Health Training will be offered June 11-15, 2007. Nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants, physical therapists and other health care providers are invited. The training program may be taken for three graduate credit hours from the University of Iowa College of Public Health, and continuing education credits for physicians and nurses is available. For more information or to register, contact Kay Mohling at 319-335-4219, or visit the I-CASH Web site at www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash.

found at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/councils/agff/default.html>.

NIFS conference: 'Applying What We Know'



The National Institute for Farm Safety (NIFS) annual conference will be held June 24-28, 2007, in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada. The theme: Applying What We Know.

The conference will update attendees on the latest research. Plenary sessions and panel discussions will include topics such as: Knowledge Transfer/Research to Practice (on Monday), The Effective Use of Social Marketing (on Tuesday), and Effective Program Delivery and Implementation (on Wednesday). There will also be poster sessions and educational displays, and educational tours to local vineyards. The conference will conclude with a professional improvement session, "The Changing Face of Agriculture." The conference is being hosted by the Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association (FARSHA). For details, visit www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~agsafety/NIFS/nifs.htm or www.farsha.bc.ca.



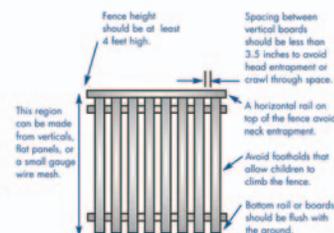
Childhood Agricultural Safety Network members meeting in El Paso included (from left): Marilyn Adams, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids; Amy Liebman, Migrant Clinicians Network; Alma Galvan, tour leader; Barbara Lee, National Children's Center; the tour driver; David Hard, NIOSH; and Mary Miller, Washington Department of Labor and Industries.

CASN meeting highlights farmworker issues

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network met Feb. 11-13 in El Paso, Texas. The meetings and tours gave attendees an enhanced understanding of issues facing farmworkers and immigrants. Bobbi Ryder, National Center for Farmworker Health, set the stage with an overview presentation on farmworker employment, migratory patterns and history. Amy Liebman of Migrant Clinicians Network, and Heather Hughes of the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs, gave updates on proposed legislation related to immigrant workers and child laborers. Tours arranged by Migrant Clinicians Network highlighted the work, life and health issues of migrant workers near the United States-Mexico border.

New online: Keys to Creating Safe Play Areas

It's the perfect time to start thinking about designing and building an outdoor safe play area. The National Children's Center has added a new feature to its Web site: "Keys to Creating a Safe Play Area," which can be viewed at http://marshfieldclinic.org/nfmc/pages/default.aspx?page=nccrahs_safeplay_keys



The new page includes fencing guidelines and recommendations

The new page can show how to: select an area for safe play; provide child protective barriers; choose play equipment; and use proper ground surfacing. The site is full of guidelines and recommendations - just in time for summer fun.



Doug Schaufler of Penn State University (second row, far right) had the idea to put the "It's Easier to Bury a Tradition than a Child" poster on T-shirts. Front (from left): Aaron Yoder, Davis Hill. Middle: Dennis Murphy, Bill Harshman, Schaufler. Back: Jim Hilton.

'Bury a Tradition' on T-shirts, TV

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) campaign to keep children younger than 12 away from tractors is spreading via print, Web, radio, television - and now T-shirts.

The agricultural safety and health team at Penn State University has put the image of the campaign poster, featuring the message "It's Easier to Bury a Tradition than a Child," on T-shirts. A Pennsylvania county Extension office has ordered a couple hundred shirts to give away this summer at safety programs, said Sally Maud Robertson, Penn State research

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'Bury a Tradition' on T-shirts, TV *(continued from page 3)*

associate. "It would be great to get them out and about the whole country," Robertson said. Penn State ordered its shirts through Spotted Lizard Printing and Graphics, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, 1-877-776-8222 or <http://www.spotted-lizard.com/>. They'll ship the printed shirts anywhere in the country for \$3.33 apiece (assuming a minimum order of 48 shirts). Contact information for your organization can be added below the image.

Television PSA:

A 30-second television public service announcement (PSA) was filmed April 3-4 near Nashville, Tennessee, with celebrity spokesman Michael Peterson. There is a segment at the end of the PSA in which sponsors can be acknowledged. Please encourage your local TV stations to air the PSA. For details, visit <http://www.childsafety.org>. Questions? Contact Regina Fisher at 1-800-662-6900 or email fisher.regina@mcrf.mfldclin.edu.

Schedule of upcoming events

May 9-11, 2007

National Farmworker Health Conference • Newport Beach, California

June 2-7, 2007

American Industrial Hygiene Association: AIHce • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

June 17-20, 2007

American Society of Agricultural & Bio-Systems Engineers •
Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 24-28, 2007

National Institute for Farm Safety • Penticton, British Columbia, Canada

July 13-14, 2007

Journalists Workshop • Lexington, Kentucky

October 12-17, 2007

National Safety Council Congress & Expo • Chicago, Illinois

October 18-20, 2007

20th Annual East Coast Migrant Stream Forum • Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Nurture is a publication of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (a program of Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin).

It is published three times each year to disseminate children's rural health and safety information to professionals in the fields of health and safety, agri-business, the media, and others.

Contact the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, Marshfield Clinic, 1000 North Oak Ave., Marshfield, WI 54449-5790; phone 1-800-662-6900 or 715-389-4999; fax 715-389-4996. Visit our Web site at <http://research.marshfieldclinic.org/children>.

NCCRAHS Newsletter Board:

Scott Heiberger, Editor

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Barbara Marlena

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