

# practice, policy & research

## CALL FOR PAPERS

## "Future of Work in Agriculture"

It is estimated that 1.3 billion people work in agriculture (family farmers, salaried workers), accounting for 27 percent of the world's working population. The amount of research on the subject of work in agriculture is not commensurate with the sector's importance. Consequently, we have limited information on critical factors affecting the future of food production as the world population expands and its climate changes.

The *Journal of Agromedicine* seeks original research and editorials to help agriculture prepare for the future of occupational safety and health by **connecting trends across the agricultural workplace, workforce and the work itself**. A dedicated issue is planned for October 2022.

When thinking about topics, consider these key questions:

- Best Practices: What are evidence-based strategies and practices for eliminating the major and most costly injuries/diseases among agricultural workers? Which strategies work best in large operations and which for smaller farms?
- Global View: How does the global market affect our safety standards and requirements for US exports and imports? How can we effectively guide food production and worker safety in developing countries?
- Research Needs: What should our research priorities be, and who will pay for research? What infrastructure is most appropriate to ensure research capacity, relevance and translation into practice?
- Education/Training Needs: Who are/where is the next generation of agricultural safety/health specialists, advocates, practitioners, researchers? What educational systems are needed to ensure succession of current leaders in agricultural safety?

- Industry Roles: What is the role of agribusiness and related industries (e.g., insurance, banking, legal) in sharing responsibility for safety of food and workers? How do principles of Corporate Social Responsibility and Shared Values fit here?
- Public and Organizational Policy: What is the role for federal/state policies and regulations? What business protocols and standards are needed to address worker safety and health as agriculture adopts new practices?
- Farm Organizations: How could farm organizations use their operational policies to achieve greater safety and health in agriculture?
- Sustainable Workforce: What is our role in facilitating and sustaining an agricultural workforce, including immigrant workers? How do we effectively reach under-served populations (e.g., Hispanic, African American, Native American, Hmong, Anabaptist) with best safety practices? And how do we effectively safeguard everyone, including children working, visiting and living on farms?
- Emerging Issues: How do mainstream agricultural safety and health principles fit with growing business such as biofuel production as well as popular trends of urban gardens and local food sales, e.g., farmers' markets? Should we address occupational safety and health for these workers?
- Knowledge Mobilization: How do we "get the right information to the right people to do the right thing at the right time"? How can new communication technologies improve efficiencies in safety practices?
- Vulnerable Workers: What special approaches may be needed to assure the safety and health of vulnerable workers such as youth and migrants?
- The safety gap between large and small farms: A shrinking percentage of farms produce an increasing percentage of food. In the United States, approximately 10 percent of farms produce 80 percent or more of the food we eat. Larger farms fall under government safety and health regulations and are subject to increasing audit and reporting requirements. But what about the small, subsistence and non-traditional farms that contribute a disproportionate share of the total fatality and injury statistics? How will we influence the safety practices of this widely diverse group of small producers?

#### INSTRUCTIONS

The *Journal* invites submissions related to timely research/scholarly activities. Topics should directly discuss issues pertaining to occupational safety and health. Instructions for Authors specific to this issue:

Editorials (limit 1,500 words)

Brief Reports (limit 1,500 words)

Full Length (limit 3,000 words)

Additional limits: Abstract 250 words, References 25, Tables/Figures 4
For information on general submission guidelines, please see "<u>Instructions for authors</u>" on the *Journal*'s website.

### **SUBMISSIONS**

Manuscripts for consideration must be submitted via email by February 15, 2022, for initial review by the guest editors. Peer review will be completed during the spring and summer of 2022. The anticipated publication date is October 2022. Due to space limitations, some accepted manuscripts might be held until the January 2023 issue.

#### **CONTACT**

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