# Toolbox Talk

AgSafe ALBERTA

Talk Led By: _____  Date: _____

Site/Location: _____  Time: _____

Weather Report/Conditions:

_____  High: _____ °C   Wind Speed: _____ km/hr

_____  Low: _____ °C   Wind Gusts: _____ km/hr

## Storing Bales & Handling Bales Safely

Bale Storage:

- Chose a level, even, stable and well drained area to store bales, as soft or uneven ground increases the risk of an incident.
- Store bales in areas that are uncluttered and are a safe distance away from overhead powerlines (at least 7 meters).
- Where possible, store round bales in single rows to ensure both safety and reduce spoilage.
- If you must stack round bales, do not stack them more than 3 bales high.  If the bales are not very dense or are soft, a maximum height of two bales is advised. Stacking soft round bales on their ends is not recommended.
- Make sure that bales are stacked so that the lower supporting bales are stabilised by overlapping and interlocking upper bales.
- Appropriate fencing can keep all kinds of uninvited guests out, two and four legged alike.
- Post signage warning of the danger.

Handling Bales:

- Regardless of how bales are stored or their size, do not allow anyone to be in the immediate work area (especially children) as bales may shift or fall.
- Use equipment designed for lifting and stacking bales and ensure only trained and competent individuals operate it. Ideally, this equipment would include an approved cab or Falling Object Protection System (FOPS) to protect the operator.
- Do not carry bales in a way that obscures your vision.
- Remove stacked bales from the upper row first; do not remove bales from the bottom or middle of the stack as it creates instability and increases the risk of being crushed by a falling bale.
- Watch for spoiled bales and bales partially eaten by wildlife as they will be weak and may shift.

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## Additional Topics/Discussion:
*Might include task/job details, hazards and hazard controls, worksite specific emergency response, etc.*

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## Attendance:

| Print Name | Position/Trade/Company | Sign Name |
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