ELEMENT 1 JOB TASK HAZARD ASSESSMENTS Participant Booklet

Year 1 Learning Module Farm Safety Risk Assessment Updates June /July 2023





General Information

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The print materials, tools, courses and webinars are intended to be used as resources only. Each farm will need to customize its approach to health and safety and may need to make any forms or templates used farm-specific in order to address the particular needs, factors, applicable legislated requirements, etc.

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Important

This booklet contains important information and worksheets that will help you in fulfilling the requirements of Element 1. The AgSafe Alberta FarmSafe Plan Manual as well as downloadable and customizable versions of the documents contained here can be found at www.agsafeab.ca.



Part One

For the purposes of this element, think of a **job** as the larger scope of work and a **task** as a part or step of that work. For example, the job would be tractor operator and the tasks associated with that job would be things like refueling it, performing pre-inspections, stacking bales, hauling bales with it, or pushing snow.

1. Position List Worksheet

Things can and do change, as can who performs the jobs and tasks on the farm. It is not necessary to complete this form, but it is a good place to start. This worksheet is followed by a completed sample to help you in completing your own.

2. Job and Task List Worksheet

This is a simple worksheet to help you create a job and task list for your farm. This worksheet would work well on a family farm or on a smaller farm maybe one or two employees. On a medium or larger size farm, this form could be completed for each work area. Completing this would support your score for Element 1.2.

3. Position Based Job and Task List Worksheet

This is a simple worksheet to help you create a job and task list for each person or position your farm. This worksheet would work well for a farm that has never done something like this before and on a medium to larger size farm with employees. Completing this would support your score for Element 1.2.



POSITION LIST WORKSHEET

Farm Name		
Work Area(s)	Date Completed	

Worker Name(s)	Position(s)	Details / Notes

Additional Comments:

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date



POSITION LIST WORKSHEET (EXAMPLE)

Farm Name	Joe Jones Farm		
Work Area	Cow Calf Operation	Date Completed	May 25, 2022

Worker Name(s)	Position(s)	Details / Notes
Jane Doe		Feed, water, check cattle; operate tractors and
David Garcia	Labourer / Cattle Hand	feed mixer; move and sort cattle, load and
Pat Brown		unload cattle
		Supervise the labourers & direct work; contact
Dave Smith	Supervisor	veterinarian as needed; administer
		medications
Joe Jones	Owner Operator	Bookkeeping, ordering, arrange for shipping

Additional Comments:

Review again in one year to add any positions that have been added, changed, or missed.

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date
Dave Smith	Supervisor	Dave Smith	May 25, 2022
Joe Jones	Owner/Operator	Joe Jones	May 25, 2022



JOB AND TASK LIST WORKSHEET

Farm Name		
Work Area		Date Completed
Job Name	Season(s) Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter/All Year	Task(s)
Additional Comments:		

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date



JOB AND TASK LIST WORKSHEET (EXAMPLE)

Farm Name	Joe Jones Farm		
Work Area	Potato	Date Completed	May 25, 2022

Job Name	Season(s) Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter/All Year	Task(s)
Seed	Spring	Load seed Auger use Moving equipment on public roads Operating equipment in the field
Irrigation	Spring & Summer	Inspect system Operate system Perform repairs Check water source/supply Add chemicals to the system
Harvest	Fall	Auger use Loading trucks Moving equipment on public roads Operating equipment in the field
Take seed to cleaning plant	Fall	Loading trucks Unloading trucks Auger use Moving equipment on public roads
Dry seed	Fall	Transfer seed Auger use Operate dryer Operate equipment
Store seed	Fall	Auger use Operate equipment
Inspect bins and seed	All year	Physical inspection & climb bin Check monitors

Additional Comments:

Review again in the fall to add any tasks that have been missed.

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date
Jane Doe	Casual Labourer	Jane Doe	May 25, 2022
Dave Smith	Supervisor	Dave Smith	May 25, 2022
Joe Jones	Owner/Operator	Joe Jones	May 25, 2022



POSITION BASED JOB AND TASK LIST WORKSHEET

Farm Name		
Position		Date Completed
TOSKIOIT		Date completed
Job Name	Season(s) Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter/All Year	Task(s)
Additional Comments:		
Additional Comments:		

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date



POSITION BASED JOB AND TASK LIST WORKSHEET

Farm Name	Joe Jones Farm		
Position	Cattle Hand	Date Completed	May 25, 2022

Job Name	Season(s) Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter/All Year	Task(s)
Feed Cattle	Fall/Winter/Spring	Operate tractor Operate feeder Act as a spotter; open/close gates
Check waterers	All Year	Inspect system Perform minor repairs
Check cattle		

Additional Comments:

Review again in the fall to add any tasks that have been missed.

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date
Jane Doe	Casual Labourer	Jane Doe	May 25, 2022
Dave Smith	Supervisor	Dave Smith	May 25, 2022
Joe Jones	Owner/Operator	Joe Jones	May 25, 2022



Part 2

In order to complete a hazard assessment that will actually protect people, you will need to understand some fundamental information. This includes:

1. What Are Hazards?

You will be introduced to different types of hazards on pages 11 to 15 of this booklet.

2. How to Identify Hazards

You are given tips to help you identify hazards on pages 16 and 19 of this booklet.

3. How to Assess Hazard and Risk

Information on how to perform hazard and risks assessments can be found on pages 20 through 24.

4. How to Control Hazards

Information on how to control hazards and how to select hazards can be found on pages 25 to 27.

5. Hazard Assessment Examples

Equipped with this basic information provided earlier, you be introduced to different examples of hazard assessments. Examples of hazard assessments can be found on pages 28 through 30.



WHAT ARE HAZARDS?

A hazard is something that could cause damage or harm to someone or something on your farm.

Many hazards can belong to more than one of the categories listed in this handout. For example, inhaling grain dust that contains mold over many years is a biological, physical and health hazard. It may be helpful to think of the two main categories of hazards as *health hazards* and *safety hazards*, however, breaking them out into smaller categories will make it easier to identify more specific types of hazards.

7 CATEGORIES OF HAZARDS

Safety Hazards **Health Hazards** Chemical Hazards Biological Hazards Safety hazards refer to anything Health hazards refer to Chemical hazards are hazards Biological hazards are organic that has the potential to cause anything that has the potential associated with the storage, substances that can harm immediate injury. to cause an acute or chronic handling or use of chemicals. A someone's health. chemical is a substance that can condition, illness or disease Examples include: from exposure. potentially cause harm to Examples include: Driving & operating people, livestock, and the • Bacteria & viruses that can environment. equipment. Examples include: cause illness and disease • Live electrical systems. • Respiratory hazards, such as such as Lyme disease, grain dusts, ammonia, mold Examples include: ringworm, brucellosis, • Tool and machine use. spores, etc. • Sanitizers, solvents, and leptospirosis, listeriosis, q- Manual material handling. common cleaning products. fever, hantavirus, etc. · Ladder use and working at Noise. Exposure to things that may · Pesticides (insecticides, • Molds & spores from heights. cause skin conditions such herbicides, fungicides, spoiled feed or in damp • Things that can result in as contact dermatitis, heat fumigants, animal storage areas. slips, trips, and falls. systemics). Plants and pollen. rash, infections, etc. • Exposures to things that Veterinary drugs. Animals, including their may cause cancers such as • Fuels and petroleum body fluids and fecal asbestos, aflatoxins from products. matter. fungi, or diesel exhaust. Welding gases, fumes and **Physical Hazards Ergonomic Hazards** Psychosocial Hazards Physical hazards are hazards Psychosocial hazards are those Ergonomic hazards are physical that pose a threat to someone's things that can harm someone's factors that may cause physical safety. mental health and wellbeing. musculoskeletal injuries. Examples include: Examples include: Examples include: • Exposure to vibrations that Bullying and harassment, • Sitting or holding the same can have negative vascular such as name calling, position for long periods of and neurological effects. making jokes at someone time, such as long hours in a • Moving parts on machines else's expense, etc. tractor cab. & equipment that can cut, Stressful working • Repetitive motions, such as crush or entrap someone. conditions, such as pressing a clutch or shifting • Exposure to temperatures expecting too much to get gears in a grain truck. that could result in heat done in the time available • Awkward working positions, stress, cold stress, burns, or or expecting a task to be such as when required completed without having frostbite. when welding and repairing the right tools or labor equipment. · Weather, such as hail or available. • Excessive force injuries, lighting. • Air quality issues, such as An unsafe working such as when hammering environment, such as one spikes into a wooden pen or dusts or a potentially toxic that does not have guards fence panel. or oxygen deficient on equipment or where environment. · Carrying heavy, awkward people are permitted to and or moving loads, such a operate equipment while sick calf or sheep. under the effects of drugs • Long hours standing on a or alcohol. hard surface, such as in a

floor.

barn or on a dairy parlor



HAZARDOUS ENERGY

Electrical Energy	Hydraulic Energy	Pneumatic Energy	Chemical Energy
This type of energy relates to the movement of electrically charged particles. It can be live (i.e., powerlines) or stored (i.e., batteries). Our bodies, equipment and even tools such as a ladder can conduct electricity. Injuries from this type of energy are electrocutions, electric shocks, burns and falls.	This type of energy involves the power and energy in a pressurized liquid. Braking systems and tractor loaders use this type of energy. When released in an uncontrolled way, people may be crushed or struck by machinery, equipment, or their parts.	This energy relates the power and energy in pressurized air. Air brakes, spraying devices and air tools use this type of energy. When released in an uncontrolled way, people may be crushed or struck by machinery, equipment, or their parts.	This type of energy is stored in the bonds of chemical compounds. It is released when a substance undergoes a chemical reaction. The energy that is released may be in the form of heat or pressure, and commonly results in a fire or explosion. Injuries may result from chemical exposure or a resulting fire and/or explosion.
Thermal Energy	Radiation Energy	Gravitational Energy	Mechanical Energy
This energy is in the form of heat and is sometimes called heat energy; it is the energy in an object or system as a result of its temperature. This type of energy includes explosions, flames, high/low temperatures, and radiation from heat sources. Burns, dehydration, and frostbite (an injury that results from exposure to excessively cold temperatures and heat loss) are common injuries that relate to this type of energy.	Radiation is energy that travels from a source in the form of waves or particles though space or a material at the speed of light. There are different types of radiation; the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety identifies ionizing, low-frequency electromagnetic, optical and radio-frequency electromagnetic radiation, and goes on to list the injuries as burns, changes to genetic material or reproductive systems and such disorders as headache, insomnia, and other functional disorders (CCOHS, 2021).	This energy is stored in an object and relates to both the objects distance from the ground and its weight. This type of energy increases as the object gets further from the ground and/or goes up in weight. People can by crushed, struck, or impaled by falling objects; even seemingly small and harmless objects falling from the right height can cause serious or fatal injuries.	An object, machine, tool, etc. has this type of energy due to its motion or its position. Mechanical energy can be either kinetic energy (energy of motion, such as a moving tractor) or potential energy (stored energy of position, such as a coiled and compressed spring). When released in an uncontrolled way, people may be crushed or struck by machinery, equipment, or their parts.

(adapted from CCOHS, 2021)



RESPIRATORY HAZARDS & OXYGEN DEFICIENCY

Gases	Vapors	Dusts & Fibers	Mists
Gases are substances that do not exist as solids or liquids at room temperature. They can be used in a task (i.e., welding) or be produced by some other process occurring on the farm (i.e., composting). Gases can easily spread throughout a building, work area or other type of enclosure. Some gases are heavier than air and will settle in low lying areas, such as pits or trenches. Gases can be toxic, flammable or explosive.	Evaporation produces vapors, which is to say that vapors are released from products such as pesticides or adhesives. Vapors are the gaseous form of a substance that is normally a liquid or a solid at room temperature and at an average pressure. An example of a solid that can produce vapors at room temperature would be mothballs.	Dusts and fibers are small solid fragments or tiny pieces of something that may or may not be visible to the naked eye. They can be produced mechanically (i.e., by grinding, milling, crushing, cutting, sanding or drilling) or naturally by the shedding of skin cells (i.e., animal dander).	Mists are tiny droplets suspended in air that are produced by scattering or distributing a liquid over an area or by condensation (when a vapor or gas changes into a liquid form). Pesticide mists are an example of this type of hazard.
Fumes	Airborne Biological Contaminants	Oxygen Deficiency	
Fumes are very small solid particles suspended in the air. They can be produced not only from a material itself, but the breakdown of any coatings or paints on a material during heating (i.e., welding, soldering, brazing, or cutting fumes).	Airborne biological contaminants are biological hazards that are carried by or are in the air. Examples can include bacteria (i.e., mycobacteria tuberculosis or coxiella burnetti), viruses (i.e., hantavirus), mold and mold spores (i.e., mycotoxins) as well as plant and animal materials (i.e., animal dander, dried feces).	The normal air around us contains almost 21% oxygen. Air that contains less than 19.5% oxygen is called oxygen deficient. Low levels of oxygen can be caused by displacement by other gases (i.e., welding gases, carbon monoxide), the rotting of organic matter (i.e., when micro-organisms consume oxygen and produce flammable methane gas that can also displace oxygen), combustion processes and even oxidation processes (i.e., rusting). Potentially oxygen deficient areas to be mindful of on farms include manure pits, root cellars, storage bins with rotting feed and enclosed storage containers that are rusting on the inside.	



RESTRICTED AND CONFINED SPACES

Restricted Spaces

A restricted space is a work area that:

- Is not meant to have someone in it all of the time or even very often.
- Would be big enough to enter and difficult to get in or out of.
- Would not have any other hazards or have the hazards properly controlled.

Think of a space with a small entry way or with obstructions that would make passage or moving around inside of it hard. An example of a restricted space may be the attic of a house, where the access ladder and hatch would make it difficult to go into and leave the space but would pose no other threat to someone's health or safety while being in it.

(Occupational Health and Safety Code, Statutes of Alberta (2021, s.1))

Confined Spaces

A confined space is a restricted space which is hazardous, or may become hazardous, to a person entering it because of:

- An atmosphere that has too little or too much oxygen, is flammable, explosive or toxic (i.e., silo gases in a silage bunker).
- A condition or changing set of events that may cause illness or injury (i.e., someone inside a grain bin and someone outside turns on the auger).
- The potential for an activity to produce dangerous or harmful results in the space (i.e., using a harsh cleaning product in the confined space may allow toxic fumes to build up).
- The basic characteristics of an activity that can produce dangerous or harmful results in the space (i.e., welding in a confined space).
 (Occupational Health and Safety Code, Statutes of Alberta (2021, s.1))



Examples of Confined Spaces in Agriculture

- Grain and feed storage facilities
- Corrugated steel bins
- Silos
- Sprayer & chemical transport vehicles
- Bulk liquid storage tanks
- Fermentation vessels
- Feed mixer wagons/tanks
- Grain driers
- Composting ponds
- Pump sheds
- Trenches & open ditches

- Sumps, tunnels, and pump pits
- Forage storage
- Bulk transport vehicles
- Containment areas around diked storage tanks
- Tunnels (i.e., conveyor tunnel)
- Forage and silage dump wagons
- Wells, cisterns, dry wells
- Fuel storage tanks
- Sea cans
- Feed grinders/mixers
- Culverts

- Root cellars
- Manure storage tanks
- Manure/bio-digester units
- Manure transport vehicles (tanks and applicators)
- Storage and mixing tanks, bins and silos
- Climate controlled plant storage units
- Septic tanks
- Manure or silage pits
- Bunkers
- Grain wagons
- Dump pits



(Adapted from U.S. Department of Labour, 2018, p.1-2)



LESS RECOGNIZED HAZARDS TO REMAIN MINDFUL OF

Some hazards can be so common that we don't even recognize them as hazards. Here are just a few examples of hazards that may go unnoticed.

Fatigue

Fatigue is more than just feeling tired, it is having to push yourself through every day despite feeling constantly weak or exhausted. Many factors contribute to fatigue, such as a lack of sleep, long periods of mental and physical work, as well as long periods of stress. Fatigue is a form of impairment that impacts a person's ability to work safely, and research has shown that the effects are similar to alcohol impairment.

The Government of Alberta, Labour reports that fatigue can:

- Reduce mental and physical function
- Impair judgement and concentration
- Lower motivation
- Slow reaction time
- Increasing risk-taking behavior

(Government of Alberta, Labour, 2017, p.1)

Stress

Stress is any type of change that causes physical, emotional or psychological strain and is the body's response to anything that requires attention or action (WHO, 2021). Everyone will experience stress to some degree, and not all stress is bad. Stress becomes an issue when it starts to impact someone's overall well-being.

Stress can affect health and safety when:

- It becomes a distraction. When the source of stress can take a person's mind off of what they are doing it can lead to mistakes.
- It can lead to people taking shortcuts when there is a tight deadline.
- It can lead to substance misuse, and in turn, the effects of substance misuse can create safety issues in the workplace.
- It contributes to violence and other inappropriate conduct in the workplace.

(Columbia Southern University, 2020)

Violence

Violence can be any act where a person is abused, threatened, intimidated, or assaulted (CCOHS, 2020). This can include threatening behaviors (i.e., throwing objects), threats (i.e., "I'm going to kill you"), verbal abuse (i.e., swearing at or insulting someone) and physical attacks (i.e., hitting, shoving, pushing, or kicking).

Harassment

Harassment is an unwelcome behavior that demeans, embarrasses, humiliates, annoys, scares, or verbally abuses someone and is often included as a form of violence (CCOHS, 2020). This can include destroying property, inappropriate physical contact or comments, opposing or challenging everything an individual suggests, etc.

Substance Use & Misuse

The term substance use refers to any use of alcohol or illicit drugs, the misuse of prescription or over-the-counter drugs or any accepted use of prescription or over-the-counter drugs which results in adverse side-effects or reactions (Government of Canada, 2012). Substance use and misuse can result in impairment (a loss of function or ability), which in turn can lead to mistakes being made and incidents occurring.



HOW TO IDENTIFY HAZARDS

You cannot protect people from a hazard that has not been identified.

Identifying hazards and controlling them before an injury or illness occurs is not only more effective, but also what is required of employers by legislation. Hazard identification is an ongoing process, which means that some form of hazard identification should always be taking place, as should taking corrective actions when needed.

WHEN HAZARDS CAN BE IDENTIFIED

- 1. When something new is being designed, built or installed. This could be when you are designing a new work area (i.e., dairy parlor, barn or cattle handling facility), when a new process or procedure is introduced and when new equipment or machines are being brought in (i.e., a new conveyor).
- 2. **Before jobs or tasks are done.** This can include a quick pre-inspection of the work area and equipment to be used, a pre-job meeting/toolbox talk, etc.
- 3. While jobs or tasks are being performed. It is always important to remain aware of our surroundings, of any changes that occur and the development of any potentially unsafe conditions.
- 4. When performing inspections. Inspections can include routine inspections, pre-job inspections, formal inspections, informal inspections, supervisor walk-throughs, health and safety committee inspections, etc. Inspections are a critical part of identifying hazards before an incident occurs.
- 5. **Following a near miss, potentially serious incident (PSI) or incident.** Ideally, this would be following a near miss incident being reported. It may also be following an injury, illness or some form of equipment damage. While this is not the best time to identify hazards, it is still very important that this is done to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.



TIPS FOR IDENTIFYING HAZARDS

- 1. Take into account the:
 - Physical work environment.
 - Tools & equipment used.
 - Materials & products used.
- 2. Consider the following:
 - How the work is scheduled.
 - Who is doing the work (i.e., new worker, young worker,
 - The work environment and conditions (i.e., barn with poor ventilation, extreme temperatures).
 - When the work is being performed (i.e., season or time of day).
- 3. Look at all aspects of the job or task, including the:
 - Routine work performed.
 - Seasonal work performed.
 - Non-routine or rarely performed activities such as cleaning, maintenance and repair.
- 4. Observe how the jobs or tasks are performed:
 - Talk to the people who perform the task (this includes all shifts) as they will be the most familiar and knowledgeable about the job and its hazards.
 - Watch how the work is being performed; are procedures, safe work practices and safety rules being followed?
- 5. Determine whether a product, machine or equipment can be intentionally or unintentionally changed (i.e., can a guard be removed or a safety feature disabled?).
- 6. Examine existing and potential risks to:
 - Contractors & service providers (i.e., custom harvest crew or electrician).
 - Visitors (i.e., during open farm days).
 - The public (i.e., carrying a load of bales on a highway).
- 7. Consider the groups of people that may have a different level of risk, such as:
 - Young or inexperienced workers.
 - Older workers.
 - Persons with disabilities.
 - Persons with medical conditions.
 - New or expectant mothers.
- 8. Review things like:
 - Farm's injury, illness and incident records.
 - Workers compensation records (i.e., identify the types and sources of past injuries and illnesses for your farm or your WCB industry code).
 - Review industry information to identify the most common hazards faced by your producer group.



HAZARD IDENTIFICATION CHECKLIST

Helpful Information: This document is intended to be a resource document only. It is recommended to complete one of these when performing a job hazard assessment. The farm can modify this document as needed to apply to its specific operation and/or work areas.

Farm Name		
Job or Task	Date Completed	

Hazard or Possible Hazard	Yes or Maybe	No
Driving & operating equipment or vehicles		
Exposure to and possible contact with live electrical systems		
Uneven ground, slippery surfaces, tools or cords in walking areas		
Manual material handling, heavy lifting, awkward lifting		
Working at heights or ladder use		
Respiratory hazards, such as grain dusts, ammonia, mold spores, etc.		
Exposure to noise (loud and/or constant noise)		
Exposure to sanitizers, solvents, common cleaning products, or similar chemical products		
Exposure to pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, fumigants, animal systemics)		
Exposure to veterinary drugs or medicated feed product dust		
Exposure to fuels or petroleum products		
Exposure to welding gases, fumes, and smoke		
Exposure to bacteria and viruses that cause illness and disease in humans		
Exposure to molds and spores (i.e., from spoiled feed or damp storage areas)		
Exposure to plants and pollen that can cause health conditions from repeated exposures		
Exposure to animals that may kick, bite, trample, charge, fall from, etc.		
Exposure to body fluids and fecal matter		
Exposure to inspects that may bite or sting		
Exposure to vibrations for long periods of time (i.e., in hands, entire body)		
Exposure to moving parts on equipment/machines/tools		
Exposure to extreme temperatures		
Too bright or too low of light		
Exposure to extreme weather (lightning, high winds, snow, ice, rain, etc.)		
Air quality issues (particulate, low oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, ammonia, etc.)		
High stress conditions and/or long work hours for multiple days		
A work environment where bullying or harassment is occurring		
Long hours spent sitting, standing, or holding the same body position		
Repetitive motions or motions that require excessive force (i.e., using a hammer)		
Exposure to hazardous energy: Electrical Energy, Hydraulic Energy, Pneumatic Energy, Chemical Energy, Thermal Energy, Gravitational Energy, Mechanical Energy		

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Hazard or Possible Hazard	Yes or Maybe	No
Additional Comments:		

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date



HOW TO ASSESS HAZARD AND RISK

Once you have identified the hazards and risk associated with a job or task, you will need to evaluate them. This process is called a hazard assessment, and it must be done in order to receive full marks. Hazard and risk assessment involves considering:

- What bad things could happen (i.e., injury, illness or other loss event),
- How likely these potential outcomes (bad things) are to happen,
- And how serious any potential outcomes could be (consequences).

Risk is the chance or likelihood of an injury, damage or loss occurring, and it is an important part of the hazard assessment process.

Where a hazard can be a thing, substance, material, energy source, condition, process, method or behavior, the risk is the harm exposure to that hazard may result in.

Type of Hazard	Hazard Example	Risk Example
Substance	Exposure to Mycotil 300® (veterinary drug)	Cardiac arrest
Condition	Walking in an icy and rutted farmyard	Slip, trip, fall
Behaviour	Not using hearing protection in a loud hog barn	Hearing loss

WHY WE PERFORM HAZARD AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- Prevent injuries, illnesses and equipment damage
- Create awareness of the hazards and risks present on the farm
- Identify who may be at risk (i.e., young workers, older family members, employees, visitors, contractors, etc.)
- Decide whether more work is needed (i.e., a control program such as fall protection program) is required for a particular hazard
- Find out if existing hazard control measures are enough or if more still needs to be done
- Prioritize hazards and hazard control measures when decisions need to be made
- Meet the requirements of Alberta OHS legislation

(adapted from CCOHS, 2017)



CALCULATING RISK RATINGS

A risk rating is determined by considering the likelihood of an injury, damage or loss event occurring and the severity of the injury, damage or loss event.

The calculation is simple: Risk Rating (R) = Severity (S) x Likelihood (L)

Risk Rating (R) = A number that represents the risk associated with a job or task.

Severity (S) = If something went wrong, how bad would the consequences be?

Would it be a scraped knee, a broken bone, a lost limb or even a loss of life? While we have not talked about hazard controls much yet, the types of hazard controls in place will have an effect on the severity of the outcome (i.e., having a highly effective machine guard preventing contact with a rotating part versus relying on people "be careful"). For our purposes, severity is scored on a scale of 1 to 5:

Score	Severity Explanation
5	Catastrophic. Death or permanent disability. Extensive property and/or environmental damage. Something the farm may not recover from. Cost over \$1,000,000.
4	Major. Life threatening injury or illness requiring admission to hospital. Significant property and/or environmental damage. Something difficult for the farm to recover from. Cost between \$20,000 and \$1,000,000.
3	Moderate. Injury or illness requiring admission to hospital for something not life threatening and resulting in a full recovery. Property and/or environmental damage that may take 1 or 2 months to repair. Cost between \$5,000 and \$20,000.
2	Minor. Minor illness or injury requiring medical attention from a health care provider. Minor property and/or environmental damage. Cost under \$5,000.
1	Negligible. Illness or injury that does not require medical attention. Property damage that does not require repair (i.e., scratched paint). No environmental damage.

Likelihood (L) = How likely is it that the hazard and possible outcomes will occur?

Think about how many people are involved in completing the job or task, how the job or task is performed (i.e., in broad daylight or at dusk?), and how often the job or task is performed (i.e., daily, weekly, monthly). For our purposes, likelihood is scored on a scale of 1 to 5:

Score	Likelihood Explanation
5	Highly likely, almost certain. Is expected to occur or could occur more than 10 times per
5	year.
4	Likely, is expected to occur. Could occur at least once per year and up to 10 times per year.
2	Moderate likelihood. Might occur in some circumstances. Could occur once in the next 2 to
3	10 years.
2	Unlikely, but could happen. Could occur once in the next 11 to 50 years.
1	Rare. May occur but would be unexpected or could only occur in unusual circumstances.



ACTIVITY

Using the risk rating formula (Risk Rating (R) = Severity (S) x Likelihood (L)) and the scoring method provided, lets assess the risk associated with climbing into and out of a tractor.

Climbing into and out of a tractor:

What are some hazards that could result in an illness, injury or damage to the equipment?	What would be the outcomes or consequences of these hazards?
Weak grip on handrails	Loss of balance, fall, soft tissue injury that may or may not require medical attention (i.e., from landing on the ground)
Slippery step or poor contact with the step	Loss of balance, fall, soft tissue injury that may or may not require medical attention (i.e., from landing on the ground)

Severity	Likelihood	Formula
In most cases, the severity would be minor, resulting in soreness or bruising*.	In this instance, the tractor is used once a day every day for approximately 30 minutes, so it is reasonably likely to occur.	R = S x L R = 2 x 3 R = 6

The severity would increase if the person or people operating the tractor were older or had certain medical conditions like osteoporosis.

The likelihood would increase if the tractor was used four times a day every day for an hour or more.

How things are done, the type of equipment used, when things are done (early morning or late at night) and even who is doing the work (i.e., a senior or youth under 25 years) can affect the severity and likelihood. These factors will be different for every operation and are just some of the reasons why farm specific hazard assessments need to be created.

So now you have a risk rating of 6 for climbing into and out of a tractor. What does that mean?

Risk Rating	Risk Rating Explanation
20 to 25 Extreme Risk	Stop work immediately. Is the job or task absolutely necessary? If not, don't do it. If so, the job or task needs to be rethought, redesigned, or needs serious modifications. Do not continue until actions are taken to eliminate the hazard(s) or reduce them to a reasonable level; seek professional advice or outside expertise on how to proceed.
15 to 16 /ery High Risk	Stop work immediately. Is the job or task absolutely necessary? If not, don't do it. If so, do not continue until actions are taken to eliminate the hazard(s) or reduce them to a reasonable level; professional advice or outside expertise is recommended.
0 to12 ligh Risk	Stop work immediately. Is the job or task absolutely necessary? If not, don't do it. If so, do not continue until actions are taken to eliminate the hazard(s) or reduce them to a reasonable level. Professional advice or outside expertise may be required.
to 8 Moderate Risk	Ensure actions are taken to eliminate the hazard(s) or reduce them to a reasonable level. Review the hazard controls in place for effectiveness or if new hazard control measures should be considered. Be mindful of complacency.
l to 3 ₋ow Risk	Keep monitoring the process. Existing controls are likely adequate but should be monitored.



HAZARD ASSESSMENT & OHS LEGISLATION RISK

OHS Legislation does not require a formal hazard assessment as defined earlier to be completed at one time and a field level hazard assessment to be completed at another. Notes on a sheet of paper or in a supervisor's logbook detailing the hazards identified & assessed and what was done to eliminate or control them may be considered a hazard assessment (though more formalized methods are recommended).

According to Alberta OHS, an employer must:

- Assess a work site and identify existing and potential hazards before work begins and control or eliminate those hazards (which you will learn more about this shortly).
- An employer must repeat a hazard assessment:
 - As often as necessary to prevent unsafe and unhealthy working conditions from developing,
 - o When a new work process is introduced,
 - o When a work process or activity changes, and
 - o Before the construction of any major additions or changes to the work site.
- Involve workers who will be a part of the job or task and who the work and its hazards could have an effect on.

(Occupational Health and Safety Code, 2021, s.7)

FORMAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT

Many people think of these as a close look at the jobs and tasks performed to identify the hazards, assess risk, and then develop, implement and monitor hazard controls.

Here, jobs or tasks are broken down into smaller parts (even steps), risk ratings are calculated, and everything is written down and signed be the people who completed and reviewed it.

FIELD LEVEL HAZARD ASSESSMENT

Many people think of these as a site-specific hazard assessment that are performed:

- Before work begins.
- At a site where conditions can change.
- When non-routine work is introduced.
- When there is no formal hazard assessment already in place for that task or job.



HAZARD ASSESSMENTS ON A FAMILY FARM VERSUS A FARM WITH EMPLOYEES

Hazard Assessments

Family Farm

Farm with Employees

It may be considered reasonable to not have written hazard assessments. A brief discussion about what the hazards are and what will be done about them to ensure that the job goes smoothly and safely could be enough.

Family farms are still responsible for ensuring the health and safety of the service providers, contractors and visitors who come onto their farm. If a serious incident occurred involving one of these worksite parties, how might a farm prove it did everything reasonable to protect the person from harm? It would make sense to perform a hazard assessment with the other worksite party, and have it documented.

Not performing and documenting a hazard assessment it is problematic for the following reasons:

- Employers are required to document hazard assessments and the hazard elimination or control measures used.
- Employers are required to keep health and safety related information (such as hazard assessments) someplace that it is easily accessed by workers and others who may be present at the worksite.
- If an incident occurs, the farm cannot prove that a hazard assessment was performed or perhaps even that steps were taken to control the hazard (how can the farm prove due diligence?).

BENEFITS OF WRITTEN HAZARD ASSESSMENTS

The benefits of written hazard assessments include:

- Protecting the health and safety of everyone present on the farm.
- Helping ensure that the farm is complying with OHS legislation.
- Ensuring the farm up to date on workplace hazards and when things change.
- They can be used to develop job procedures and safe work practices.
- They can be used to train new workers and to develop training plans.
- If the worst ever happens, they can help support a due diligence defense.

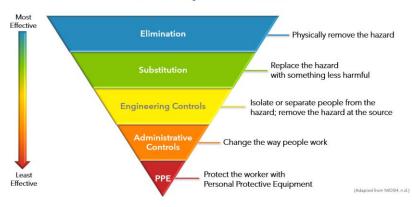
From a financial standpoint alone, when done thoughtfully and regularly, hazard assessments save time and money. Being down a person, repairing damaged equipment, high workers compensation rates, fines and penalties, and even legal fees end up being more costly in the end.



HAZARD FLIMINATION AND CONTROL

Once the hazards associated with a job or task have been identified, steps to protect your people, livestock, property and the environment from these hazards must be taken. It is not always easy to identify the best method or methods of hazard control, so performing a hazard assessment (like the ones introduced in the previous section) and using the Hierarchy of Controls will help you do this...

Hierarchy of Controls



HAZARD ELIMINATION & CONTROL SUMMARY



Where Hazard Controls Are Used

Hazard controls are usually placed at the source of the hazard, along the path and at the person.





OFTEN, MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF HAZARD CONTROL WILL BE NEEDED TO REDUCE THE HAZARD TO A REASONABLE LEVEL.

Consider people who spend long hours in a livestock barn where the air quality can be hazardous due to contaminants like dusts, carbon dioxide and ammonia. The source of the contaminants cannot be eliminated (i.e., the animals). In order to reduce the hazards of these contaminants, the employer might decide to do the following:

- Change from a dry feed to a wet feed in order to reduce airborne endotoxin concentrations (an example of substitution).
- Install a mechanical ventilation system (an engineering control).
- Develop standards to ensure the barn's stocking density does not exceed the ventilation systems capacity to maintain reasonable air quality (an administrative control).
- Require everyone who works in the barn to be trained in the use, care, and maintenance of a reusable respirator with combination cartridges (an administrative control).
- Require everyone who works in the barn to wear their reusable respirator with combination cartridges (a form of PPE that protects the person from both dust particles and ammonia).



CHOOSE THE HAZARD CONTROL MEASURES THAT ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE, THE MOST PERMANENT, AND THE ONES THAT MAKE THE MOST SENSE FOR YOUR OPERATION.

- When resources are limited, it can be hard to know where to start and which hazards to address first.
- It is important to involve your farm team in the hazard control process and engage them in discussions to identify the best methods of hazard control as their knowledge, experience and acceptance of the hazard control methods to be used are important.



PRIORITIZING JOBS AND TASKS FOR HAZARD ASSESSMENT PURPOSES

When prioritizing jobs and tasks for hazard assessment purposes, consider these points:

- Incident frequency and severity. These would be jobs and tasks where incidents occur often (but might be less serious) or where incidents occur less often but result in serious injuries.
- Potential for severe injuries or illnesses. Where an incident, hazardous condition, or exposure to harmful substances have the potential to be severe.
- New or recently modified jobs and tasks. Jobs and tasks that or new or recently modified (i.e., a change in a procedure) can result in a lack of worker experience and introduce new hazards may not be obvious or expected.
- Infrequently or rarely performed jobs and tasks. The people working on your farm may be at greater risk when carrying out non-routine, seasonal and other rarely performed work. A hazard assessment is a way to review hazards before the work begins.
- Complex jobs and tasks. These are jobs and tasks that are complicated and require written instructions and other supporting hazard control measures. These jobs and tasks would include, but are not limited to, work in confined spaces (i.e., performing a repair inside a manure pit).

(adapted from CCOHS, 2016)



HAZARD ASSESSMENT FORM

Job or Task		
Farm Name		
Completed By		
Date Completed	Review Date	

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Risk Hazard Control Measures					
Hazards					
Fask/Step					

Additional Comments, Refence Documents, Etc.	

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date
IMPORTANT: RETAIN A COPY OF THIS DOCUME	ENT IN YOUR FARM RECORDS.		



HAZARD ASSESSMENT FORM

Job or Task	Visually pre-inspect tractor	et tractor	
Farm Name	Joe Jones Farm		
Completed By	Completed By Jane Doe, Dave Smith, Joe Jones	h, Joe Jones	
Date Completed June 1, 2023	June 1, 2023	Review Date	June 1, 2024

RECMANDE.					
(0×15)-(0)	Heppgher 1	Mher 2	Moderate	Mujor 4	Catestrophic
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Modernoty 19sty 3	-		(6	10	#
Vall.	*	*	Tit.		90
Highly Likely	4	91	10		

Task/Step	Hazards	Risk Rating		Hazard Control Measures
1. Perform walk around/pre-inspect tractor	 loe or mud on the ground Ruts and uneven the ground 	а		Assessing ground and area conditions prior starting task Ee mindful of footing, not rushing/moving quickly when on toy or muddy ground. Wear footwear with clean soles and good grips
2. Climb into 5 out of the tractor	 Poor or weak grip on the handrails Slippery stops/rungs, footwear with slippery sples Reaching or leaning while climbing into the cab 	4	1 11	Follow safe work practice for climbing into and out of equipment, such as three points of contact, not carrying items in hands when climbing into or out of equipment, facing steps/rungs and keeping the body centered between handrails while climbing into and out of equipment Wear footwear with clean soles and good grips War gloves ensure they are well fitting and have good grips

Additional Comments, Refence Documents, Etc.

Refer to Joe Jones Farm. Safe Work Practice for climbing into and out of equipment.

Print Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date
Janeboe	casual Labourer	General Free	June 1: 2022
Dave Smith	Supervisor	Dave Swith	JUNE 1, 2022
savolaol	Owner/Operator	Joe Jones	June 1, 2022
THE COURT OF THE PARTY OF THE P	COCCUPATION TO A STATE OF THE S		





HAZARD ASSESSMENT FORM

Work site/location	Date completed	
Emergency communication method	Emergency transport plan in place	
Emergency roles (i.e., first aid)	Working alone plan in place	
Emergency equipment on site	Muster point	

then using the back of this sheet. list the number and the hazards and describe how you will eliming te or control the hazards.

CHECK SIGNAL SIGN WEIGHT WOLK, THEN SOME SIGNAL SIGNAL WINDOWS CHE HOLD SIGNAL	ies of this succes, his the hamber and the hazards and	rescribe now you will elimine to or common time market as:
Gen	Seneral	What can go wrong?
1. Housekeeping (not tidy, slip/trip potential)	 Repeated or ongoing heavy lifting, lifting awkward loads 	How bad could it be?
Others working in the area (overhead, under, beside)	16. Loose clothing, laces or hair	How can I prevent things from going wrong?
3. Animals in work area (under, beside)	17. Fatigue, long work hours, overtime, low sleep	FARMERSACARE
4. Children or visitors in work area	18. Distractions, texting, talking & driving, child in the cab	F Fall from height or slip, trip & fall related hazards
5. Chemicals used or in area (i.e., vapors, fumes, mists, etc.)	 Stress, not enough labour, breakdowns, etc. 	A Air quality issues, respiratory hazards, hazardous atmospheres
6. Dusts or fibers in area (i.e., grain, wood or road dust)	20. Violence, harassment, road rage, etc.	R Roll overs or run over related hazards
7. Potential for low oxygen or toxic atmosphere	21. Substance use or misuse (i.e., medications due to illness)	M Machinery or motor vehicle related hazards
8. Noise in area	22. Tool or equipment damage/defects	E Energy sources have been isolated, released and proven safe.
9. Problematic light levels (i.e., too bright or too dark)	23.	R Remote work or working alone being performed
10. Hot/cold work environment, surfaces, materials, parts, etc.	24.	S Secure loads; loads needing proper securement
11. Weather conditions (i.e., wind, rain, snow, ice, lightening, etc.)	25.	Chemical exposure; chemical use, handling or storage hazards
12. Working near energized equipment or rotating parts	26.	A Animal handling; animal related hazards
13. Awkward bodypositions and/orlong hours sitting or standing	27.	Restricted or confined spaces
14. Repetitive motions or motions requiring excessive force	28.	Electrocution; electrical hazards, overhead powerlines, etc.

ntrol the hazards.	How hazards will be eliminated or controlled						
List the hazards and describe how you will eliminate or control the hazards.	# Hazards Ho						

Signature			
Print first and last name of those involved			

Signature			
Print first and last name of those involved			

Page 1 of 4

JOB TASK HAZARD ASSESSMENT FORM

det no dol	Onerste nomered mobile equipment	uinmont.		RESK MATRIX	VIRIO			SEVERITY		
Nep 10 gos	operate powered modile ex	and and and		formula		Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
	and and the state of state of the state of t			d N		1	2	÷	+	2
Details	Job or task is done by the larm team members Job or task is done by a service provider or contractor	or provider or contractor		E -	Rare 1		2	3	4	5
	■ Not applicable to the farm/the farm does not use powered mobile equipment	ne farm does not use powe	red mobile equipment	5 -×	Unlikely	2	4	9	90	10
Farm Name				I Mod	Moderately Likely		9	Ø1	12	15
Completed By				2000	Libery 4	4	æ	12	16	R
Date Completed		Review Date		High	Highly Llloshy 5	5	30	35	R	8

ask or Step	Possible Hazards & Outcomes	S	7	R	Hazard Controls In Place
et in and out of	Health Hazards:				Engineered Controls:
owered mobile	Other:				Handles for getting in and out
quipment					Other:
	Safety Hazards:				
	Weak grip, slippery step in				Administrative Controls:
	Other:				Person must be trained and competent in this task
					Use handles for getting in and out
	Possible Outcomes:				☐ Maintain 3 points of contact for getting in and out
	Loss of balance, fall				Do not have other items in your hands when getting in and
	Other:				out
					■ Keep soles of boots clean/scraped
					Other:
					Personal Protective Equipment:
					■ Footwear with good grips
					Other:
uel powered mobile	Health Hazards:				Engineered Controls:
quipment	Fumes, fuel contact with skin				Automatic shut-off on fuel pump
	Other:				Dike present around fuel tank/refueling area
					Other:
	Safety Hazards:				
	Static electricity and sources of electricity, slippery				Administrative Controls:
	or rutted and uneven ground, fuel spill				Person must be trained and competent in this task
	Other:				☐ Turn skid steer off when refueling

		Do not smoke use a mobile phone or other sources of
	Possible Outcomes	
	Fire or explosion slin or frin fall respiratory	Do not re-enter or exit nowered mobile equipment during
	irritation skin irritation chronic exposures to fuel	refueling without grounding vourself by touching a metal
		confirm a man brand first
	call lead to cancer	Surface With a Dare nand first
	Other:	Metal gas nozzle is always in contact with the lip of the tank
		during refueling to eliminate static build up
		A fully stocked spill kit and/or tray is kept at the refueling area
		□ Stand upwind during refueling
		O other:
		Personal Protective Equipment:
		□ Coveralls
		☐ Chemical resistant gloves
		☐ Chemical resistant boots
		Other:
Operate powered mobile	Health Hazards:	Engineered Controls:
equipment	Noise, sitting for long periods, repetitive	☐ Adjustable seat
	movements	☐ Backup alarm
	Other:	□ Backup camera
		Other:
	Safety Hazards:	
	People or animals in the work area, equipment or	Administrative Controls:
	buildings in the work area (limited room to move),	Person must be trained and competent in this task
	poor lighting, poor visibility, steep grades,	 Pre-inspect equipment before use; conduct function tests of
	extreme temperatures	lights and safety features (i.e., running lights, backup alarm, etc.)
	Other:	O Keep lights clean
		Adjust seat prior to use & wear seatbelt at all times
	Possible Outcomes:	 Before starting work, inspect work area for ground or slope
	Hearing damage, soft tissue injury, roll over, run	hazards, overhead hazards, visibility issues, etc. and eliminate or
	over, contact with buildings or equipment,	control them
	heat/cold stress	Operate at a safe speed
	Other:	When travelling, keep load as close to the ground as
		reasonably possible
		 Use a trained and properly equipped Spotter
		Stop equipment if visual contact with Spotter or other(s) is
		lost
		Rope, flag, post signs or use other methods to keep people
		out of the work area
		Check weather report prior to starting work; dress for
		conditions and schedule breaks appropriately

Visit www.agsafeab.ca for agricultural health and safety learning opportunities, tools and resources!

		Other:
		Personal Protective Equipment:
		Hearing protection, if appropriate
		Spotters/other workers wearing high visibility and
		retroreflective vests and gloves
Operate powered mobile	Health Hazards:	Engineered Controls:
equipment	Noise, sitting for long periods, repetitive	☐ Adjustable seat
	movements	□ Backup alarm
	Other:	□ Backup camera
		□ Other:
	Safety Hazards:	
	People or birds in the work area, equipment or	Administrative Controls:
	buildings in the work area (limited room to move),	Person must be trained and competent in this task
	poor lighting, poor visibility, steep grades,	Pre-inspect equipment before use; conduct function tests of
	extreme temperatures, overhead hazards	lights and safety features (i.e., running lights, backup alarm, etc.)
	Other:	☐ Keep lights clean
		☐ Adjust seat prior to use & wear seatbelt at all times
	Possible Outcomes:	Before starting work, inspect work area for ground or slope
	Hearing damage, soft tissue injury, roll over, run	hazards, overhead hazards, visibility issues, etc. and eliminate or
	over, contact with buildings or equipment,	control them
	heat/cold stress	Operate at a safe speed
	Other:	■ When travelling, keep load as close to the ground as
		reasonably possible
		☐ Use a trained and properly equipped Spotter
		Stop equipment if visual contact with Spotter or other(s) is
		lost
		Rope, flag, post signs or use other methods to keep people
		out of the work area
		Check weather report prior to starting work; dress for
		conditions and schedule breaks appropriately
		Other:
		Personal Protective Equipment:
		☐ Hearing protection, if appropriate
		Spotters/other workers wearing high visibility and
		retroreflective vests and gloves
		Other

Load, pick up, set down and unload	Health Hazards: Other:	Engineered Controls:
	Safety Hazards:	Administrative Controls:
	Load shifting, blind spots, line of sight problems	Person must be trained and competent in this task
	dropped load, material too heavy for the	Know the maximum allowable load limits as per the
	equipment, unbalanced load	manufacturer's specifications
	Other:	☐ Ensure the load is balanced
		Strap and secure the load properly; cradle the back of the
	Possible Outcomes:	load slightly
	Run over, roll over, dropped load, contact with	□ Other:
	objects or building, contact with equipment	
	Other:	Personal Protective Equipment:
		Well fitting gloves with good grip
		☐ Steel toe footwear
		□ Other:

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Name	Print Job Title	Signature	Date

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Part Three

In order to obtain full marks, the other people working on your enterprise (that is, in your egg barns) will need to be trained in hazard identification, assessment and control as it relates to their work. An example of how to record this and what it might look like are found on the following pages.

You can get more information about communication, orientation and training in the AgSafe Alberta FarmSafe Plan Manual and online FarmSafe Plan learning program. Go to www.agsafeab.ca to view these and to learn more.



SKILL AND COMPETENCY EVALUATION

Disclaimer: This is a sample skill and competency evaluation and is intended to be a resource document only. The farm will need to customize it and make it farm-specific to address the particular needs, factors, applicable legislated requirements, etc.

Worker Name	Job Title	
Supervisor Name	Date of Evaluation	
Farm Name	Re-Evaluation Date	

Job or Task Work Area

Step	Description	Meets Expectations	More Training Required	Comments/Notes
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

Additional comments, resources used, factors or conditions relevant, etc.				

Worker Signature	Date	
Supervisor Signature	Date	
Farm Owner Signature	Date	

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SKILL AND COMPETENCY EVALUATION

Worker Name	Jane Doe	Job Title	Casual Labourer
Supervisor Name	Dave Smith	Date of Evaluation	May 5, 2022
Farm Name	Joe Jones Farm	Re-Evaluation Date	May 12, 2022

Job or Task Basic Hazard Assessment Completion Work Area Not Applicable

Step	Description	Meets Expectations	More Training Required	Comments/Notes
1	Describe what hazards are and give examples relating to their work.	✓		
2	Describe what hazard controls are and explain which ones are the most effective and which one is the least effective.	✓		
3	Give examples of each type of hazard control relating to their work.	✓		
4	Complete a written hazard assessment for the task of egg collection.		✓	Some support was required, additional mentoring is needed
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

Additional comments, resources used, factors or conditions relevant, etc.

Jane completed modules 1 to 4 of the online AgSafe Alberta farm safe program and will be completing the rest of the modules within the next 6 months; she will go back and review modules 2 and 3. See a copy of the attached written hazard assessment.

Worker Signature	Jane Dœ	Date	May 1, 2022
Supervisor Signature	Dave Smith	Date	May 1, 2022
Farm Owner Signature	Joe Jones	Date	May 2, 2022

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