



NEWSRELEASE

**June 26, 2001
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

FARM SAFETY RESEARCH NEEDS ANNOUNCED

In direct contrast to the image of bucolic serenity most Americans hold of farm life, members of the National Institute of Farm Safety (NIFS) meeting in Pittsburgh this week point to data describing agriculture as one of the Nation's most hazardous industries to highlight the need for improved prevention.

Explaining that it is the mission of the group to provide professional development and support to those working to improve agricultural safety and health, NIFS President Eric Hallman today announced the results of a two-year project to identify priority research needs.

In introducing the priorities Hallman said, "New research is needed to identify better mechanisms for reducing or eliminating common hazards and to improve efforts to motivate effective self-protective behavior among those who work and live on America's farms."

"These research topics are ranked by priority as viewed by professionals working in the field. We hope they will be regarded with equal seriousness by those who plan, conduct, and fund agricultural safety and health research," he added.

The rank-ordered priorities are as follow.

1. Tractor and machinery-related injuries
2. Education/Teaching
3. Roadway transportation
4. Understanding farmers views & concerns, social & management aspects
5. Emergency response to farm injuries
6. Achieving behavioral change
7. Repetitive motion injuries & ergonomics
8. Livestock-related injuries
9. Chemical exposures
10. Slips, trips & falls
11. Surveillance & epidemiology
12. Occupational disease & exposure
13. Hazards to farm visitors
14. Incentives
15. Respiratory health
16. Off-road & recreational vehicles
17. Storage & confined space

(page one of two)

- 18. Rehabilitation & adaptation for injury & illness victims**
- 19. Electrical-related injuries**
- 20. Child safety**
- 21. Measuring control effectiveness**
- 22. Engineering**
- 23. Noise**
- 24. Multicultural workplace factors**

National Institute for Farm Safety

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65211