



Safety Checklist for Dairy Farms

Use this to help keep track of common hazards and basic safety program requirements.

Every farm is unique so use the blank spaces at the end of page 2 to add hazards or programs that are specific to your business.

Farm/Business Name:
Checklist Used By:
Work Location/Building:
Date:

General Safety Programs	Yes, No, NA	Notes
Written Accident Prevention Program (APP) is based on the hazards at this farm including possible heat stress (May 1 through September 30) and meets requirements.		
Written Hazard Communication Program addresses all potentially hazardous chemical (e.g. sanitizers and foot baths) and meets requirements.		
Written Permit-Required Confined Spaces Program addresses all confined spaces on the farm (e.g. feed/grain silos, milk storage tanks, manure pits and tanks) and meets requirements.		
Animal Contact		
Animal safety policy and safe work procedures are followed.		
The right personal protective equipment (PPE) is used and properly maintained.		
Safety training includes how to work safely around animals and prevent needle sticks.		
Chemicals — General		
Incompatible chemicals (e.g. acid and chlorine) are NOT mixed and are stored separately at a safe distance from each other.		
Flammable chemicals like fuels are stored and used safely.		
Emergency washing facilities (e.g. eye wash) that meet requirements are available where employees could get exposed to toxic, corrosive, or strongly irritating chemicals.		
The right PPE is used and properly maintained.		
Emergency spill procedures, supplies, and training are provided.		
Chemical — Foot Bath		
Exposure to airborne formaldehyde was evaluated and applicable requirements are followed.		
The right PPE is used and properly maintained.		
Respiratory Protection Program requirements are followed when respirators are used.		
Electrical & Fire — General		
Unsafe electrical system components like j-boxes, receptacles, cords, and wiring are repaired or replaced.		
Only 3-prong power tools and grounded circuits are used.		
Breaker boxes aren't blocked by storage.		
Safety training addresses how to recognize and report unsafe electrical situations.		
Feed & Bulk Materials		
Proper safety measures are in place to prevent engulfment, suffocation, fall, and struck-by hazards when working around silage at ground-level or above silage.		
Safe work procedures and training are provided to ensure that hay bales are safely stacked, secured, and safely de-stacked.		
Safe work procedures on machine guarding and lockout/tagout are followed when operating, unjamming, and working in proximity to feed augers and conveyers.		
Concrete "ecology" blocks stacked to contain silage are secured so they won't fall over.		

General Work Environment	Yes, No, NA	Notes
Standard guardrails are installed wherever walking or working surfaces are elevated more than 48 inches above any adjacent floor or ground.		
Fall protection requirements are followed when employees work at or above 4 feet from an adjacent floor or ground level.		
Unsafe walking, climbing, and working surfaces are repaired and replaced.		
Working areas are clean and clear of clutter and debris that could create trip or struck-by hazards.		
The right PPE is used and properly maintained to protect against animal waste, animal dander, and other materials that could cause infections, allergies, and other illnesses.		
Safe work procedures, supplies, and training are provided for rodent clean-up activities.		
Compressed air used for cleaning is limited to 30 psi or less and PPE is required to be used to protect from flying particles.		
High noise areas (e.g. around feed mixer or hoof trimming areas) have been identified and applicable hearing conservation requirements are followed.		
Safety training includes how to minimize risk to back, neck, and other possible strain or sprain injuries.		
A first-aid kit and trained person is available at all times.		
Ladders		
Employees have been trained on how to correctly select, inspect, set-up, and safely use ladders.		
All damaged ladders are tagged and removed from use or replaced.		
Metal ladders are prohibited where the ladder or person could come in contact with energized parts (e.g. overhead electrical lines).		
Machinery, Equipment, & Vehicles		
Dangerous moving mechanical parts (e.g. rotating shafts like PTOs on tractors, belts and pulleys, flywheels and gears, chains and sprockets, blades and shear points) are safeguarded.		
Mechanical parts are de-energized or disengaged and blocked or locked out to prevent dangerous movement during maintenance and other activity.		
Tractors, skid steers, portable augers, grain probes, ladders, poles, rods, irrigation pipes cannot directly or indirectly make contact with energized overhead or buried power lines.		
Safety training includes safe operation of tractors, ATVs, manure scrapers, augers, agitators, and other vehicles or equipment.		
Requirements for using ROPS and seatbelts are followed.		
Helmets are worn during ATV use.		
All who operate farm vehicles (except agricultural tractors) on public roads have a valid operator's license.		
Manure Storage		
Manure pits, ponds, lagoons, and other manure storage areas are guarded (e.g. railing, fence, or other barriers), warning signs are posted at access points, and a means of rescue is provided when access is possible.		
Safety training addresses where manure storage areas and boundaries are located, the dangers (e.g. drowning, deadly or ignitable manure gases, and mechanical hazards), and safety measures to follow.		
Welding, Cutting, and Brazing		
Precautions are taken to prevent air or oxygen from mixing with flammable gases (except when using a burner or standard torch).		
"DANGER , NO SMOKING" signs (or the equivalent) are posted.		
The right PPE is used and properly maintained to protect from flash burns, sparks, dust and debris, toxic fume and gases, and excess noise.		
Respiratory Protection Program requirements are followed when respirators are used.		
Other Hazards — add any hazards or safety program(s) not listed above.		