

## BREAK OUT PRESENTATIONS

### ABSTRACT # 56

**Title:** Farm-related Occupational Injury Reporting in Two California Counties

*Author(s): Ana Maria Osorio, Christine Geiser, Lee Husting and Kate Summerill*

A pilot program for the surveillance of work-related agricultural injuries/fatalities was developed for two agricultural counties in the state (Fresno and Monterey). The primary objective was to prevent occupational farm-related injuries through active surveillance of incident cases, selective field investigations and health education/outreach. Case definition included three criteria: (1) Occupational: The injury is defined as occupational if it occurred at an agricultural site where the person was working (whether paid or unpaid), or occurred during a task associated with agricultural production or services, or resulted from using or being exposed to farm machinery or other agricultural hazards; (2) Agricultural: Injuries may be included if they occur in industries with SIC codes in Division A: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing under major groups 01 (Agricultural Production-Crops), 02 (Agricultural Production-Livestock and Animal Specialties), or 07 (Agricultural Services). Injuries with SIC codes 08 (Forestry) and 09 (Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping) are excluded. An agricultural injury is one that occurs at a farm, dairy, packing shed, food processing plant, or similar site, and is related to agricultural production or services; and (3) Injury: The case must involve an injury such as fractures, lacerations, burns, strains, insect bites, and effects of exposure to chemical agents. *Population*: agricultural workers in Fresno and Monterey counties with high percentage of migrant latinos. *Time period*: 1991-1996. *Information collected*: There are >5000 case reports in the database. Variety of case reporting sources were used: California mandated Doctor's First Reports (which provided the majority of cases), hospitals, clinics, various state agencies and the media. Type of data collected included: demographics of the person injured, employer name and nature of business, incident time and place, nature of the injury and the external cause. *Information dissemination*: Health and safety outreach was conducted in Spanish and English and targeted health care providers, agribusiness representatives, farm workers, and local agencies and institutions interested in agricultural or migrant health and safety. *Case follow-up*: Fatal, serious, frequent, and/or unusual injuries are investigated. Of all the reports received, 35 have resulted in more detailed reports containing a description of the incident, suggestions for prevention of similar injuries, and a single page Spanish summary. Over 400 sets of these in-depth reports have been distributed. Types of injuries profiled include: workers struck or crushed by objects, injured by a fall, or affected by heat and, less common, electrocutions, spider bites, scalping and amputations by equipment, and death from lightning. *Conclusion*: The NURSE incident database is a valuable resource for research and public health policy. The large number of cases (over 5000), and providers (over 30) involved plus the long period of observation has resulted in a very detailed and extensive farm-related occupational injury database. This talk will present the characteristics and trends of agricultural injury in two California counties. In addition, there will be discussion of selective illustrative case reports, lessons learned in the development of this project, recommendations for the prevention of occupational injury in this industry and potential use of this surveillance model in other areas of the country.

### ABSTRACT # 61

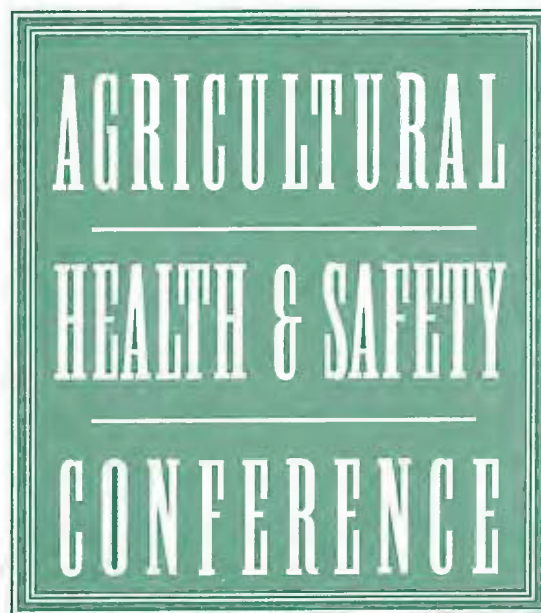
**Title:** Skin Cancer in Rural Farm Populations

*Author(s): Dawn C. Lewis & Karyn O. Jones, GA Dept. of Human Resources*

The Georgia Harvesting Healthy Habits Campaign is an effort to educate the farmer and farm worker of the dangers of skin cancer. According to our research the average farmer does not practice skin cancer prevention practices. Farmers were contacted by phone and participated in an extensive phone interview. The interview contained questions about skin care practices and general farming information. Based on the information we received, efforts to educate the farmer were focused on public education. Farmers generally do not seek preventative health care since most are not insured or underinsured. A large percentage of the farmers surveyed had never received a skin exam. We decided to provide the health information in places the farmer frequently visits. The majority of farmers surveyed visit their local feed and seed store regularly. The GHHH Project developed displays which were placed in feed and seed stores. The displays contained skin cancer prevention messages. The displays were also stocked with brochures the farmer could take home. The brochures contained information about skin self-exam, sunscreens, and protective clothing. Most farmers surveyed never wore sunscreen. The farmers received a coupon for a sun protection cap developed by GHHH. The caps were to be picked up in the feed and seed stores which contained the displays. As a result of these efforts several hats and brochures have been distributed.



## A B S T R A C T S



LAND  
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July 15-17, 1997  
NIOSH Morgantown Facility  
Morgantown, WV

- 3:30 pm      **Communicating Agricultural Fatality Data (#30)** - *T. W. Struffmann, M.S.P.H.; E. Moon, M.A.; A. Scheerer, Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, Lexington, Kentucky*
- 3:45 pm      **FACE-ing Facts About Agricultural Fatalities in the Western High Plains (#31)** - *S.J. Hewitt, High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado and L.E. McKenzie, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Denver, Colorado; W. Hetzler, State of Nebraska, Department of Labor, Omaha, Nebraska; J. Rolf, Wyoming Department of Health, Cheyenne, Wyoming*
- 4:00 pm      Group Discussions (Involving session chairs, presenters, and the audience)

### **B3 - CANCER ISSUES FOR AGRICULTURAL POPULATIONS**

(NIOSH Facility, Room L 3044/45)

**Session Chairs:** Barbara Connally, NIOSH; Avima Ruder, NIOSH

- 3:00 pm      **Skin Cancer Awareness and Prevention Among Agricultural Workers in North Carolina: The Dark Side of the Sun (#118)** - *Ellen Smoak, Judy Mock, and Ellen Miller*
- 3:15 pm      **Overcoming Barriers to Effective Skin Cancer Prevention Among Agricultural Professionals (#86)** - *P.A. Litow, C.S. Sisneros and D. F. Goldsmith*
- 3:30 pm      **Skin Cancer in Rural Farm Populations (#61)** - *Dawn C. Lewis & Karyn O. Jones, GA Dept. of Human Resources*
- 3:45 pm      **Cervical and Breast Cancer Prevention Among Central California Farmworkers (#87)** - *M. Velasquez, B. Ruiz, M.-F. Vega, H. Gomez, R. Delgado, P. Litow, G. C. Sisneros and D. F. Goldsmith*
- 4:00 pm      Group Discussions (Involving session chairs, presenters, and the audience)

### **B4 - PARTNERING FOR PREVENTION IN AGRICULTURE**

(NIOSH Facility, Room L 4044/45)

**Session Chairs:** Anthony Yancey, NIOSH; Eric M. Hallman, Cornell University

- 3:00 pm      **Building Partnerships for Agricultural Injury Prevention (#62)** - *Peggy Hickman, EdD, RN, University of Kentucky College of Nursing; Larry Piercy, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture; Michael Auslander, DVM, Kentucky Department for Public Health; & Joe Claxon, BS, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation*