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Updating the NAGCAT Tractor Guidelines to Reflect the Latest Scientific Evidence

David Hard PhD^a, David C. Schwebel PhD^b, Tammy Ellis BS^c & Barbara Marlenga PhD, RN^c

^a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Morgantown, West Virginia, USA

^b University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

^c National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield, Wisconsin, USA

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Standard will be addressed. Resources to aid in compliance will be identified.

Correspondence: Charlotte Halverson, chalverson@agrisafe.org

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David Hard,¹ PhD; David C. Schwebel,² PhD; Tammy Ellis,³ BS; Barbara Marlenga,³ PhD, RN

¹National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Morgantown, West Virginia, USA

²University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

³National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield, Wisconsin, USA

It has been more than a decade since the *North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks* (NAGCAT) were released to assist parents in assigning developmentally appropriate and safe farm work to their children ages 7–16 years. Since NAGCAT were released, a growing body of scientific evidence has accumulated related to the content and application of these work guidelines. The purpose of this project was to update the NAGCAT tractor guidelines based on review of the scientific literature and the recommendations of a core group of scientists to the NAGCAT project. A synthesis of the peer-reviewed literature surrounding NAGCAT content and application was conducted. A panel of childhood agricultural safety and health researchers and practitioners was convened to review and discuss the literature synthesis, add programmatic evidence from their own work with youth and tractors, and develop consensus recommendations for updating the NAGCAT tractor guidelines. The consensus recommendations included: 1) dropping the youngest age group (12–13 years) from the NAGCAT tractor matrix, thus making 14–15 years the recommended ages to begin tractor operations; 2) updating the adult responsibilities, recommended supervision, and age recommendations for 22 NAGCAT guidelines that involve tractor operations; and 3) developing a companion piece for parents outlining

5 child development domains and their relationship to safe tractor operations. The updated tractor guidelines and the child development companion piece for parents are now available at cultivatesafety.org. With this project, we used research results to update the content of these best practices guidelines that have demonstrated efficacy for injury prevention. Agricultural industry leaders can help facilitate a widespread dissemination of these updated voluntary youth tractor work guidelines.

Correspondence: David Hard, DHard@cdc.gov

A Pilot Project to Develop Culturally and Linguistically-Appropriate Pesticide/Chemical Education Materials for Hmong Produce Growers

Annalisa Hultberg, MS; Michele Schermann, RN, MS; Palee Yang, RN

¹Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

The purpose of this project was to provide culturally-appropriate pesticide education for Hmong farmers in Minnesota and develop a cohort of peer educator farmers. The number of Hmong farmers continues to increase in Minnesota, yet few easy-to-understand sources of pesticide safety information exist for this community, and farmers may be using chemicals incorrectly, posing a threat to public health and worker safety. Eight Hmong farmers were selected to participate based on project partner input, their leadership potential and interest in the topic. Farm visits provided information on the type of chemicals used, crops grown, personal protective equipment (PPE) usage, and chemical storage. Participants attended four participatory workshops on key pesticide safety topics: PPE, measuring chemicals, reading chemical labels. Each workshop included hands-on learning and skills-building components. Participants presented on pesticide safety at the Immigrant and Minority Farmer Conference February, 2013, and led a pesticide safety class for March 2013. A poster and picture-based handout with simple English was developed