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## **Monthly Safety Blast**

Produced by the Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education

## December 2019

## Safe Work & Play for the Holidays



Photo credit: Farmers Guardian; https://www.fginsight.com/news/news/five-ways-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-food-and-farming-

School may be closed during the holidays, but farmers and other agricultural workers rarely take a day off. The farm chores still have to be done. It may seem like a good opportunity to impart wisdom and passion to the next generation of agricultural producers, but parents and guardians should be mindful about the kinds of farm chores assigned to youth and the safety of children who are better off 'corralled' into safe play areas.

Last month, two brothers ages 3 and 5 were killed on the family farm. Their home and the work site were on the same land and they were playing near the combines and farm trucks. They crawled under a grain trailer that had just been loaded with 90,000 pounds of corn. The driver never saw them. The boys were killed instantly when they were run over by the trailer tires. The family and the driver were forever changed in an instant.

About every 3 days, a child dies in an agriculture-related incident. Make sure your family time on the farm is safe and age-appropriate this holiday season. The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety have excellent resources to help parents protect children who live on or visit agricultural work sites. YOU can keep your family safe.

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emotional development.

- For the kids who are not mature enough to help on the farm, Safe Play Area recommendations are available in English and Spanish.
- · You can help make your agricultural work site safer for children by using the Agricultural Safety Checklist.
- You can also view videos related to keeping kids safe on the farm at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY7XQBihZRNufhTlaxN5Xp8rkAstO\_0kQ. Topics include child development, livestock safety and hygiene. Your kids will love Livestock Safety for Kids.

Stay merry and safe this holiday season.

## References:

https://www.marshfieldresearch.org/nccrahs

https://www.marshfieldresearch.org/Media/Default/NFMC/PDFs/2018%20Child%20Ag%20Injury%20Factsheetpdf.pdf www.aginjurynews.org



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