



Hazardous Occupations Safety Training for Agriculture Program

Looking out for youth farm laborers . . .



Did You Know . . .

666,500 youth up to 20 years old annually work on farms operated by persons other than their guardians?

22,600 farm injuries occur to these youth each year, more than in any profession employing youth?

100 youth die each year in farming-related incidents?

Source: NIOSH

HOSTA's Objectives . . .

1. Support current standards by updating and assessing curricula, testing, procedures, and certification means
2. Conduct studies to support policy and this program including the health, labor, and economic impacts of retaining or altering current standards while studying youth in agriculture employment trends and the skills these youth need.
3. Develop educational programs that mitigate agricultural hazards to all young workers, regardless of their knowledge, experience, ability, ethnicity, or culture.



To learn more about HOSTA, please contact:

Mr. Brad Rein
Nat'l Program Supervisor
Ph. (202) 401-0151
brein@csrees.usda.gov

Fax (202) 401-5179

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov>

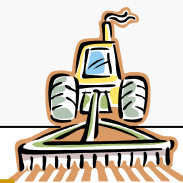
Plant and Animal Systems
1400 Independence Ave, SW
STOP 2220
Washington, DC 20250-2220

About the Program . . .

- HOSTA supports national efforts to deliver timely, pertinent, and appropriate **training to youth** seeking employment or already employed in agricultural production.
- The program has critical ties to the current **regulations for youth** employment in agriculture, especially the exemptions provided in 29 CFR Part 570, subpart E-1 for youth under the age of 16 employed in some agricultural occupations having obtained certification.
- Significant changes in agricultural production and in the agricultural workforce since this regulation took effect in the early 1970's have encouraged the USDA to work with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in considering **training and certification innovations** along with developing appropriate training and restrictions on youth employment in hazardous agricultural jobs.
- HOSTA's funding has appeared under the Smith-Lever 3 (d) line for Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification since 2001 and has awarded **\$1.65 million** in grants.

Projects Funded Through FY 2004 . . .

Project Title	Lead Entity	Project Directors	Project Highlights
● Establishing a National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Certification Program	Penn. State U.	Jim Hilton, Dennis Murphy, and Tom Bean	Curriculum development, evaluation, and instructor training
● Graphics-Based Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification Curriculum	Purdue U.	Bill Field, Roger Tormoehlen, Gary Bertoline	Picture-based translation of curriculum for those with limited literacy skills
● Implementation of a National Youth Farm Safety Certification Database	Purdue U.	Roger Tormoehlen	Database of youth certified, instructors trained and state safety contacts identified; and forward educational content and test questions to interested youth
● Development of a Tracking and Database System for a Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification Program	Ohio State U.	Tom Bean and Samuel Steel	Database of youth certified and their test results, certified instructors, course availability, and educational materials
● Determining Agriculturally Related Skills Twelve to Twenty Year Olds Need For Non-Parental Farm Employment	Penn. State U.	John Becker, Dennis Murphy, Jim Hilton, Tasha Snyder, and Fern Willits	Separate surveys of youth and employers to determine the nature of perceived training needs and the tasks performed
● Development, Implementation, Evaluation of a Model Administrative Management system for the HOSTA Program	Purdue U.	Roger Tormoehlen, Bill Field, Brian French Mack Strickland	Increase awareness of youth employment regulations, prepare certification administrative standards and establish national clearinghouse



More information for youth laborers in agriculture . . .

- Federal child labor laws and agriculture: <http://www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/whd/whdfs40.htm>
- State child labor laws and agriculture: <http://www.dol.gov/esa/programs/whd/state/agriemp2.htm#prohibited>
- Safety information for youth in agriculture: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/agriculture/index.html>
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has supported relevant research projects: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/childag/ChildAgExtramuralResearch.html>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.