

Safety Checklist for Agriculture workers

Introduction

Agriculture plays a vital role in India's economy. Over 58 per cent of the rural households depend on agriculture as their principal means of livelihood. Agriculture, along with fisheries and forestry, is one of the largest contributors to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

As per estimates by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the share of agriculture and allied sectors (including agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishery) was 15.35 per cent of the Gross Value Added (GVA) during 2015-16 at 2011-12 prices.

India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices and spice products. India's fruit production has grown faster than vegetables, making it the second largest fruit producer in the world. India's horticulture output, comprising fruits, vegetables and spices, is estimated to be 283.4 million tonnes (MT) in 2015-16 after the third advanced estimate. It ranks third in farm and agriculture outputs. Agricultural export constitutes 10 per cent of the country's exports and is the fourth-largest exported principal commodity. The agro industry in India is divided into several sub segments such as canned, dairy, processed, frozen food to fisheries, meat, poultry, and food grains.

Hence, it becomes vital to pay attention to the safety and health of the workers in the agriculture sector. Towards this objective, we have prepared a safety checklist for the worker in farm / agriculture sectors.

Safety Checklist

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Department/Area: _____

Yes	No	Animal Handling Facilities
		Fences, gates, cages and other barriers sturdy and well maintained
		Facility equipped with vents and fans to provide adequate ventilation
		Manure pits covered with sturdy grating and occupants wearing respiratory protection
		Employees properly trained in the handling of livestock
		Appropriate gloves worn as necessary when working with animals

Yes	No	Pesticide Storage
		Storage areas restricted to unauthorized personnel
		MSDS sheets on file and accessible
		All chemicals stored in proper containers and appropriately labeled
		Personal protective equipment worn when handling chemicals
		Eyewash station properly maintained and free of obstructions
		Storage facility properly ventilated

Yes	No	Fire Safety
		Fire extinguishers located near chemical / fuel storage areas
		Fire extinguishers fully charged, easily accessible and locations clearly identified. List of fire extinguishers and their location together with expiry dates available.
		Flammable and combustible materials stored in approved cabinets
		"No Smoking" rules in hazardous areas strictly enforced

Yes	No	Ladder Safety
		Ladders inspected before use
		Employees not leaning over or standing on the top two steps of ladder
		Ladders placed on a secure and stable surface
		Ladders set up properly using the 4 to 1 rule – the base of the ladder set 1 foot away from the wall for every 4 feet of ladder height

Yes	No	Fall Prevention
		Proper footwear worn
		Adequate lighting in work areas
		Materials not stored near walkways and stairways
		Hoses and electrical cords tied up and not strewn across walkways
		All floor openings adequately covered
		Work areas free of clutter and debris
		All openings whether indoor or outdoor are adequately covered

Yes	No	Electrical Safety
		Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) installed on electrical outlets near water sources. All fuses and circuit breakers of correct size and in good condition.
		Junction boxes, electrical outlets, switches and other electrical components adequately covered
		Light bulbs guarded to prevent being struck by objects and machinery
		Extension cords not used as permanent outlets
		Doors closed and circuit spaces covered on panel boxes
		Electric motors and pumps well-guarded

Yes	No	First Aid
		First aid kits available in all work areas
		First aid kits inspected and refilled on a regular basis
		Training provided on appropriate first aid treatment

Yes	No	Outdoor Safety
		Training provided on dealing with blizzards, tornadoes and other hazardous weather conditions
		Employees apply sun protection and drink plenty of liquids during the hot weather
		During cold weather, employees dress in layers to prevent hypothermia
		Workers provided with appropriate personal protective equipment for indoor and outdoor work

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