

# Network News

THE NETWORK | providing agricultural occupational health and safety information and programs to Saskatchewan farm families since 1988

## The Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture Begins an Extensive Agricultural Research Project in Saskatchewan



**CCHSA CCSSMA**  
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture  
Centre canadien de santé et sécurité en milieu agricole

The Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA) located in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan is an innovative research organization focused on farm health and safety research. The mission of CCHSA is to conduct and stimulate research, and develop education and health promotion programs aimed at enhancing the health and well-being of agricultural, rural and remote populations.

**On average, sixteen people are killed every year on Saskatchewan farms and 200 people are hospitalized with serious farm-related injuries.** Despite the variety

of programs that have been implemented, we have not seen a decline in fatal and serious farm injury rates in the past eighteen years.

CCHSA is initiating a research pilot program with the goal of decreasing the occurrence of injury and death. This voluntary program involves health screening, safety assessment, education and incentives within the rural communities that take part. This exciting new pilot program will be set in motion in rural Saskatchewan where farmers will be involved every step of the way, from its inception to the finish. Their participation throughout the research project will ensure the success of the program.

Dr. John Gordon, principle investigator of Certified Safe Farm Saskatchewan states: *"The evidence is out there, from programs in Sweden and other countries, that incentive-based programs do reduce accidental death and injury rates on the farm. While pieces of such programs have*

*been developed in many provinces, CCHSA will bring together the Canadian and International architects of these programs to help us develop a broadly-based Canadian approach to a Certified Safe Farm program. We are counting on the Agricultural Health and Safety Network members and SARM to fine-tune this program for Saskatchewan. We are looking to determine (in a large five year study) whether financial incentives will help us to reduce what can only be described as unacceptable death and injury rates in Saskatchewan."*

**This is a truly exciting opportunity for Saskatchewan to continue to lead the way in Canada.**

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
Box 120 RUH, 103 Hospital Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W8





# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CCHSA AND THE NETWORK?

The Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan focuses on farm health and safety research. The Agricultural Health and Safety Network is CCHSA's extension division that delivers resources, programs, and clinics to Saskatchewan farm families. Together with SARM and partnering RMs we are able to carry out many activities throughout the province.

## THE CURRENT CANADIAN FARM SAFETY SITUATION WORKSHOP

At the beginning of September, CCHSA brought together representatives from across the country to share their perspectives on a Certified Safe Farm program as well as their abundant experience with existing farm safety programs in their respective provinces.

Also in attendance from Iowa State University was a team from a successful Certified Safe Farm Program that has been running for over ten years. They generously offered their experience and expertise to the group.

The workshop proved successful, and all who attended were able to contribute which gives CCHSA explicit direction, guidance and inspiration to go forward with this program.

## SASKATCHEWAN FARM SAFETY CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Earlier in the year, seven consultation meetings were held across the province. The Network, the Steering Committee and other partners assisted CCHSA in organizing these meetings.

The purpose in gathering Saskatchewan producers was to involve them in the early stages of designing the best farm safety intervention for Saskatchewan farm families. Their contributions to these meetings are highly valued and assist CCHSA with developing a research program that will develop an effective intervention in reducing injuries, illnesses and fatalities related to agricultural production. Participants expressed their views on the important elements of the program including health screenings, safety assessments, action plans, incentives, buy-in and recruitment.

It is expected that farmers will continue to be part of the Certified Safe Farm project as it develops. *Watch for further updates on the CSF project in future issues of the Network News.*

*“Producer contributions to these meetings are highly valued by CCHSA”*

## HEARING CONSERVATION AND RESPIRATORY HEALTH CLINICS



The Agricultural Health and Safety Network provides Hearing Conservation Clinics and Respiratory Health Clinics to Network member RMs throughout rural Saskatchewan. The purpose of the hearing clinic is to test farmers' hearing and provide education about how to best protect hearing when exposed to noise hazards on the farm. The purpose of a respiratory clinic is to test farmers' lung functioning and provide education about how to protect the lungs when exposed to hazards on the farm.

If you are interested in attending a clinic contact your local RM to request a clinic in your community. If you would like health and safety resources on either of these topics, call the Network at (306) 966-6644.

**SLEEPLESS**  
IN SASKATCHEWAN

**DVD**

**Coming soon!**

**Fall 2009**

## TRADE SHOWS

Network staff talked to hundreds of producers at the **Farm Progress Show** in Regina last June. These discussions lead us to our decisions about what to include in the Newsletter, workshops to offer, and resources to distribute. It is important for you to tell us what you need from the Network. Network staff will attend the **Western Canadian Agribition** held in Regina in November. Drop in and tell us what you would like to see in the next Network News or tell us your story. There will also be numerous resources to take home and read at your leisure. We look forward to seeing you there!

## LOW STRESS CATTLE HANDLING WORKSHOPS

If you would be interested in representing your RM and learning to be a Low Stress Cattle Handling trainer or if you would be interested in a workshop in your area, please contact the Network (306) 966-6647.



## WHAT IS THE

# H1N1 FLU

## VIRUS?

H1N1 Flu Virus has been reported around the world, and the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared it a pandemic influenza virus. H1N1, sometimes called swine flu or swine influenza, is a strain of the influenza virus that usually affects pigs, but which may also make people sick.



H1N1 Flu Virus is a respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to those of the regular human seasonal flu. **Symptoms include: fever, fatigue, lack of appetite, coughing and sore throat. Some people with H1N1 Flu Virus have also reported vomiting and diarrhea.**

Different strains of influenza are commonly circulating in our environment, including strains that can cause illness in humans, birds and pigs. Sometimes, humans and animals can pass strains of flu back and forth to one another through direct close contact such as in pig production barns and livestock exhibits at fairs. When a swine influenza virus does affect a

human, there is also a risk that the animal influenza can mutate and then spread directly between humans.

### Recommendations to avoid influenza:

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water, or use hand sanitizer
- Get an annual flu shot
- Cough and sneeze in your arm or sleeve
- Keep doing what you normally do, but stay home if sick
- Check for travel notices and advisories

### IS THE H1N1 FLU VIRUS CONTAGIOUS?

H1N1 virus is contagious. Most people that have become ill have not been in direct contact with pigs and the Public Health Agency of Canada states that the virus has spread from person to person. Influenza and respiratory infections are transmitted from person to person when germs enter the nose and or throat. Coughs and sneezes release germs into the air where they can be breathed in by others. Germs can also rest on hard surfaces like counters and doorknobs, where they can be picked up on hands and transmitted to the respiratory system when someone touches their mouth and/or nose.

### WHY ARE PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT H1N1?

The strain of H1N1 Flu Virus is a new, or novel, influenza virus. Since this is a new strain, people will likely have no natural immunity to protect against the virus. International experts are concerned that this strain could spread quickly.

### Q: Can I catch H1N1 from eating pork?

**A: No. H1N1 is not transmitted through pork meat. Follow proper handling and cooking procedures to reduce the risk of food borne illnesses.**

### VACCINATION FOR H1N1

Vaccines are the primary means to prevent illness and death from influenza. A vaccine is any preparation intended to produce immunity to a disease by stimulating the production of antibodies. The vaccine stimulates the production of antibodies against the flu virus components included in the vaccine, providing immunity against the virus.

### A new pandemic vaccine will be available to all Canadians who need and want to receive it.

The Public Health Agency of Canada plans to have a vaccine ready for clinical trials by late September or early October, and to begin immunization in November.

### For more information:

[www.fightflue.ca](http://www.fightflue.ca)  
[www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca)  
[www.phac-aspc.gc.ca](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca)

This information has been adapted from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

"Our children are  
the most important  
resource on the farm."

# Rural Safety for Children

## GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

Unintentional injuries can happen when parents and children underestimate the level of risk and hazards associated with a task and mistake age and size for ability. The North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) was developed at the request of members of the farm community.

The basis for these guidelines is to provide parents with a tool that will assist them in assigning safe farm jobs to children 7 to 16 years. Children can be assessed from a physical and cognitive perspective and recommendations are made for the supervision required and safety tips.

For the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks go to Safe Kids Canada website resource list: [www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

Designing a safe play area for young children on the farm can be challenging. For a resource on creating *Safe Play Spaces* go to: National Children's Centre for Rural Safety and Health:  
[www.marshfieldclinic.org/research/children/safePlay](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/research/children/safePlay)

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) supports Progressive Agricultural Safety Days in Canada.

This is a hands-on, fun, and educational program that helps children across Canada learn about dangers and potential deadly outcomes of unsafe behaviour on the farm.

Safety days are organized locally which allows each community to meet the needs of their area. There is year round support and each coordinator is provided with training on how to organize a Safety Day.



In 2009 there were 58 Safety Days across Canada. While the basic program reaches children ages 8-13, safety days may also be organized for 4 – 7 year olds or even entire families.

**"The mission of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days is simple – to make farm and ranch life safer and healthier for all children through education and training."**

If you are interested in a safety day in your area, go to the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and click on Progressive Agriculture Safety Days.  
[www.casa-acsa.ca](http://www.casa-acsa.ca)

### Fatal Farm Injuries to Children in Saskatchewan

According to the Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program (CAISP):

- Between 1990 and 2007 machinery related injury events accounted for 83% of deaths among children 14 years of age and younger in Saskatchewan.
- Extra rider events and bystander runovers caused 48.2% of deaths.
- The leading mechanism of injury in this group was being run over by a farm machine.
- Of those killed in runover events, 71% were 1 – 4 years old.

**Most young children are injured when they are brought into the farm work area while someone else is engaged in farm work.**

# A Visit to the Coroner's Office

Published in *Journal of Agricultural Safety and Health* Vol. 14(3): 259 (Copyright 2008 American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers).

It starts as something routine and academic – part of what I do for a living. I've been here many times over the years. It's now to the point that this office is familiar, but I still feel the responsibility and weight that comes with my arrival. A plaque at the front reads: *"We speak for the dead to protect the living."* This statement was inspirational 15 years ago. Reading it now adds some trepidation and maybe a bit of guilt as I continue my work here: *we have "spoken" for so many, but protected so few.* Looking up from my seating area, I see rows and rows of stuffed filing cabinets, a paper trail of death. I smell formaldehyde. I am handed "the list" for the year, and armloads of files. Some of the files are very thin, with one-line reports and attending physician signatures. Others are thick and worn, and tied together with elastic bands that strain with the contents. I try to be efficient, and separate the kids' files into two stacks: those for children more than seven years old, and those for the very young. The younger kids' pile has twice the number. This strikes me as profound. I begin to read, and like always I become drained yet fascinated by the stories. They are all so graphic and so very sad. I am drawn into the horrors contained in the autopsy, police and ambulance reports, coroners' statements, and accounts of bystanders. The stories are always the same, over and over, to the point that I question if I'm reading the same files repeatedly. Another child crushed in a

tractor runaway, the same story of a drowning, and same mom or dad who was minding the kids while they got a few chores done, and 'just turned their head for a moment.' And from the coroners and police: *"a freak accident within a well known family . . . so tragic . . . couldn't be helped . . . no inquest or inquiry, the family has already suffered enough."* I begin to feel torn up inside. I think of my own young children. To cope, I become clinical and rather analytical in my approach. There is no more pain and anguish, only check boxes, text descriptions, cross-tabulations, and recommendations. Then I feel even more guilt. These dead children are becoming numbers. The stories that I am re-living, including the forensic pictures, are all so horrible. There is so much grief. My eyes well up. I find that I am angry, but am not sure at whom – at farm parents who expose their children to risks, at a rural society that appears to accept these tragedies as part of their fate, at the coroners and health and safety professionals that have yet to challenge the status quo. This is no longer and academic exercise. Something must change.

William Pickett, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology,  
Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

Robert J. Brison, MD, MPH, Professor of Emergency Medicine,  
Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

Barbara Marlenga, PhD, Research Scientist,  
Marshfield Medical Research Foundation, Marshfield, Wisconsin.

## SASKPOWER FARMYARD POWER LINE RELOCATION PROGRAM

### SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE

The Farmyard Power Line Relocation Program helps farmers reduce the risk and inconvenience of working around SaskPower overhead power lines.

Under this cost sharing program, SaskPower will invest a major portion of the cost to bury or relocate 25kV or 14.4kV overhead power lines in electrified farmyards and immediate work areas.

SaskPower will invest 75% and all you pay is 25% of the total construction cost to a maximum of \$2000.

Contact SaskPower for more information about your eligibility and how to apply.  
1-888-SKPOWER

### POWER LINE SAFETY TIPS

Contact with an overhead power line can cause property damage, serious injury or even loss of life.

Before doing any work near overhead power lines, the most important thing you can do is know the location of all power lines on or near your farm. Point them out to anyone who helps with farm activities such as employees, temporary workers and family members, including children.

### REMEMBER:

- Electricity seeks every available path to the ground. When a person or other objects get too close or touch a power line, it creates an instant flow of electricity.

- Non-metallic materials such as lumber, tree limbs, tires, ropes and hay can conduct electricity.
- Look out for overhead power lines whenever you operate machinery, equipment or move buildings and other materials. Use someone to help observe for you.
- Plan your route in advance to avoid passing under power lines.
- If you approach a downed power line, keep a safe distance away. The area around, including the soil, equipment and other objects, could be energized. Call SaskPower's trouble hotline immediately at 310-2220 to report a downed power line.
- Do not clear storm-damaged trees, limbs or other debris that are touching power lines, or cut down trees or prune limbs that may fall into power lines. Call us at 1-888-SKPOWER (1-888-757-6937) to investigate the situation.

# " HOLY SMOKES! MAYBE I'M DYING HERE! "

*"60% of Canadian farmers work alone where assistance is not readily available in the event of injury, illness or emergency"  
~Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program*



"I remember like it was yesterday. The freezing rain was stinging my face and I was lying there in the mud - so cold - with the horses sniffing and milling around above me. I could feel a painful heat and numbness rising up my body from my legs - like boiling water. All I could think was, 'Holy smokes! Maybe I'm dying here!'"

These are the words of Edwin Taylor of Grand Valley, Ontario, a survivor of a horrific farm incident that changed his life and his family's in an instant.

Ed is not alone. On average, at least **1,500 people are hospitalized and 113 are killed in farm-related incidents in Canada each year, according to the Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program.** In 2006, Statistics Canada notes that almost 14 thousand Canadian farms reported one or more medically treated or lost time injuries. The Census of Agriculture 2001 shows the most frequent causes of farm-related injuries include unsafe use of equipment or material-handling practices, followed by fatigue, trying to save time and miscommunication between workers.

It was November 16, 1990 and Ed, then 36, was going about his morning chores. A fence needed mending before the frost set in, but first he'd put out a round bale of hay for the horses. There's no end to the things that need to be done when running

a horse-breeding stable and 500-acre cash crop farm along with an off-farm job.

Meghan was only three, but she liked to help her Daddy with morning chores and visit her Pinto pony 'Princess' before being taken to the babysitter's across the road. Ed wanted the bucket on the front-end loader for the fencing work, and it was already on the tractor. If he just put the hay out with the bucket instead of switching on the bale spear then he could save at least 20 minutes by not having to switch it back again. He'd done it a hundred times before.

But today would be like no other. After getting the bale, and opening and closing the gate, Ed got back on his 674 IH tractor with a 2250 loader to put the hay in the feeder. There was a swale causing a bit of a dip in the landscape and the loader was admittedly higher than it needed to be. "I guess I must have popped the clutch a bit starting up - and then it was coming at me, end over end," recalls Ed.

The 1100 pound, 4' x 6' round bale had dislodged from the bucket and rolled down the front-end loader toward the driver's seat. With only a split second to react, Ed leaned over to the side and toward the area under the steering wheel for protection. The bale rolled right over his back and continued off the rear of the tractor.

Ed knew he was badly hurt and going into shock. He figured it would be best to try to get some help while he still had his wits about him. Realizing he couldn't move his lower body, he used his arms to pull himself off the tractor but his overalls got caught in the gearshift leaving him on the ground with his legs partially hung-up. The horses milled around: sniffing at him, eventually turning their attention to the bale of hay.

Fifteen minutes go by. "I could feel a painful heat and numbness rising up my body from my legs - like boiling water. All I could

think was, 'Holy smokes! Maybe I'm dying here!'" reflects Ed.

"Daddy why are you sleeping in the mud?" asked a little voice from behind the horses. Meghan was only three but she knew something was terribly wrong. With shock setting in, Ed instructed the little girl to go to the road and look very carefully both ways to make sure no cars were coming, then cross the road quickly and go to the babysitter's house to get help. And that is exactly what she did, but not before returning with a bag of twine clippings for a pillow and a horse blanket to make her Daddy's 'sleep' more comfortable.

Help arrived soon thereafter and **Ed started what would be a full year in the Sunnybrook and Lyndhurst Hospitals in Toronto to undergo multiple surgeries, rehabilitation and physiotherapy.** He had a compressed thoracic 12 vertebrae (level T12) fracture and considers himself lucky to be classified as an incomplete paraplegic who can walk short distances with crutches. "I can get around enough to get in and out of vehicles and machinery, no problem. I have some up and down movement in my legs so I can clutch and brake normally. In fact I got my A-Z licence a couple of years after the incident - passed no problem," Ed says.

"The farm safety theme 'PPE only works if you use it!' struck home with me because the hay spear was the safe and proper loader attachment that I should have used to feed the hay," explains Ed. "I had a perfectly good hay spear right there, all I had to do was use it."

Upon returning home, Ed decided he wanted to keep farming. **After some restructuring, a lot of help from family and friends and a few renovations, Ed was back in the horse business,** this time racing. "We had three horses - 'Odds Against', 'Little Champ' and 'Silver Champ' - that got us back on our feet again," says

*"Holy smokes! Maybe I'm dying here!" continued...*

Ed of his Standardbred and Thoroughbred winners. Ed has since sold his horse breeding business and is concentrating on the cash crops along with several racehorses.

***"I think we farmers get so used to the reality and dangers of farm life that we get complacent and careless," says Ed. "It's a hell of a lesson to have to learn the hard way."***

Ed is the Ontario representative for Canadian Farmers With Disabilities. More information is available at [www.fwdcanada.com](http://www.fwdcanada.com).

by Theresa Whalen-Ruiter, CFA Farm Safety Coordinator

#### WHEN WORKING ALONE REMEMBER:

- To use cell phones, radio, and written notes to maintain contact.
- To keep your cell phone or radio close within reach.
- Emergency and local contact phone numbers – program them into your phone for speed dialing.
- To let someone know what you are doing, where you are going, how you will get there and when you will be back.
- A buddy system – checking in can work both ways. Have a person check on you periodically with a phone call or a short visit.
- To have contact with someone who will come and look for you if you do not return as expected.

#### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT . . .

**Cell phones may lose their signal or may not always be accessible in an emergency. Having personal contact is critical to ensure someone will follow up if you do not check in as expected.**

## THE FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM OF THE SASKATCHEWAN ABILITIES COUNCIL

**Mandate:** "To promote farm safety and to provide services, practical information and support to farmers and their families to help them adjust and continue farming with a disability"

#### History of Farmers with Disabilities

When farmers are affected by injuries, illness or changing health and are faced with some hard questions. Do I keep farming or not? If I do, how am I going to manage?

The Farmers with Disabilities program began in 1985 to help answer these questions, and provide support for farmers with disabilities who want to stay on the land. Through the program, farmers across Saskatchewan have formed a network they can rely on for advice and support. Injured farmers and farmers with disabling health conditions can talk with others who have experienced the same challenge. Farmers have trouble adapting their equipment for their disability can draw on the network for ideas.

#### SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES:

**Visitation** – a newly disabled farmer is visited in the hospital by a volunteer farmer who is experienced in farming with a similar disability. The volunteer can answer questions, share experiences and practical information, and give encouragement.

#### Assistive Technology Resource –

Information on assistive technology that the farmers use in their daily living and in their farming. Much of the information on modifications to machinery, the house, shop and other farm buildings and the farmyard is available on the Council website at [www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca](http://www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca).

**HANDIFARMER Newsletter** – Three issues are produced annually. The newsletter features a success story, information on upcoming events, and articles on assistive technology and farm health and safety.



#### Farm Safety and Accident Prevention Promotion:

- Interviews granted the media
- HANDIFARMER newsletter
- Displays at farm shows and health fairs
- Farm safety presentations given to school children and adults
- Cooperation with agencies, organizations and companies that promote safety

For more information on Farmers with Disabilities:  
Bill Thibodeau, Program Coordinator  
Phone: (306) 374-4448  
Fax: (306) 373-2665  
Email: [farmerswithdisabilities@abilitiescouncil.sk.ca](mailto:farmerswithdisabilities@abilitiescouncil.sk.ca)

The Farmers with Disabilities Program of the Saskatchewan Abilities Council is pleased to present a free

#### Peer Mentoring Workshop

Date: November 12, 2009

Time: 2:00 – 6:00 (including supper)

Place: 2310 Louise Avenue, Saskatoon, SK

The guest speaker, Colleen Stewart, Mentorship Consultant, will speak about the benefits and challenges of peer mentorship. There will be time for informal networking and fellowship. All participants are invited to stay for supper, at no charge, immediately following the workshop.

Please confirm your attendance before October 13, 2009:

Contact: Bill Thibodeau (306) 374-4448  
[bthibodeau@abilitiescouncil.sk.ca](mailto:bthibodeau@abilitiescouncil.sk.ca)



Farmer's with Disabilities at the Farm Progress Show 2009  
Bill Thibodeau and Mr. Bernard Query

## SARM Scholarship

### RM OF EYEBROW NO. 193 STUDENT AWARDED SARM SCHOLARSHIP

"I have lived here my whole life; we have many safe and special memories here. I have learned about safety, responsibility and above all good work ethic. It is important that our farm serves not only as a workplace but as a safe and happy home."  
Courtney Cave



### 2009 SARM Scholarship Winner

Courtney Cave, from the RM of Eyebrow No. 193 is this year's winner of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities 90th Anniversary \$1000 Student Scholarship in Agricultural Safety and Rural Health.

Courtney's essay focuses on the hazardous and demanding business of farming. She discusses how safety must come first when working on a farm and that injuries can be prevented by identifying hazards.

Courtney is taking the course in Medical Radiologic Technology at SIAST (Kelsey Campus) in the fall of 2009. Courtney lives in the Tugaske/Eyebrow area and is an active member in the family's farming operation.

### Scholarship Eligibility

Have you completed the last two years of high school in Saskatchewan?

### Are you . . .

- Enrolled in Grade 12 for the 2009-2010 school year?
- Planning on studying at a post secondary school in the fall of 2010?

### Do you . . .

- Have a farming background?
- Have parents or guardians who pay taxes to a RM?
- Live in a rural area?

### YES! GREAT!

- Download an application form from <http://www.cchsa-ccssma.usask.ca/ahsn/scholarships.php> or get one from your RM office.
- Write a 1,000 word essay on The Importance of Safety and Health on Our Farm or Safety and Health Hazards on Our Farm.
- Send your application and essay to: Sueli de Freitas, Public Relations Coordinator, Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture, Box 120, Royal University Hospital, 103 Hospital Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W8

**Deadline: Post marked no later than Friday, February 5, 2010.**

### Welcome New Network Members!

The Network continues to grow as RMs recognize safe and healthy ratepayers are their most valuable asset. We welcome the RM of Glen Bain No. 105, the RM of Caron No. 162, the RM of Grassy Creek No. 78, the RM of St. Louis No. 431, the RM of Big Arm No. 251, the RM of Weyburn No. 67, RM of Brokenshell No. 68, the RM of Montmartre No. 126, the RM of Caledonia No. 99, the RM of Francis No. 127, the RM of Kellross No. 247, and the RM of Fillmore No. 96.

### Farm Stress Line: 1-800-667-4442 Monday to Saturday 8 A.M. to 9 P.M.

The farm stress line is a confidential peer counseling service responding to the needs of farm families. When you call you will talk to people who understand farming—men and women who have experienced the pressures of farming today. They are there to help you explore options and connect you with programs and services so you are better able to address problems and make choices.

### Did you know about Making Connections?

The Connections Services Directory is a directory accessed through the internet at [www.agr.gov.sk.ca/connection](http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/connection) providing information and links to government agencies, programs, volunteer organizations and their programs and services. Making Connections: 1-866-680-0006

### Moved? Retired? Not Farming?

To remove your name from our mailing list call (306) 966-6644 or contact the editors.

### Need more information?

There are a variety of resources available on line at: [aghealthandsafetynetwork.usask.ca](http://aghealthandsafetynetwork.usask.ca)

### Thank You!

Saskatchewan Agriculture for supporting Network News.

### From the Editors

Send your ideas, comments and suggestions to:

**Network News,**  
Agricultural Health and Safety Network  
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture  
University of Saskatchewan  
Box 120 RUH, 103 Hospital Drive  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W8  
Phone: (306) 966-6644  
Email: [aghealthandsafety@usask.ca](mailto:aghealthandsafety@usask.ca)

