



# Cooperative Extension Service

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture, and County Governments Cooperating

## ARKANSAS FARM ACCIDENT RESCUE AND EXTRICATION PROGRAM OUTLINE

### Introduction

Farming is the most hazardous occupation in the United States according to the National Safety Council. Agricultural work accidents cause approximately 1,700 deaths and 180,000 disabling injuries each year. Unfortunately, Arkansas has its fair share of this number. These facts create a need for farm safety awareness and increased training for emergency personnel such as ambulance crews, rescue squads, and fire fighters. This training could also benefit the farm family, Vo-Ag teachers, and students.

The basic training program in Arkansas does not provide any specific information with regard to rescue procedures to be used in the farm environment or when persons are trapped in or under farm machinery. Unless the emergency personnel are farmers themselves, the special hazards and complications of farm buildings and equipment may be unrecognized by the rescue squad on the scene.

The time required for rescue response in most rural areas of Arkansas is greater than the average response time in urban areas. This increased response time is the result of a number of factors, including greater distance to travel and inconvenient locations such as in the middle of a muddy field. As a result, it is critical that rescue operations proceed with utmost efficiency.

The Arkansas Farm Accident Rescue and Extrication Program has been developed to acquaint those involved in farming how to avoid hazards and to train rescue personnel in the proper extrication procedures of the farm accident victim.

### Objectives of the Course

This program is designed to inform the emergency responders of the unique aspects of agricultural accidents and rescue. Participants that complete the program will:

- better understand the farm accident situation.
- be knowledgeable of the most common types of farm accidents occurring.
- understand kinds of injuries most likely to occur from different type accidents.
- understand proper procedures for disentanglement of victims from the most common farm equipment used in Arkansas.
- become knowledgeable of resources available to assist with extrication process.

—will understand common chemical hazards and first aid procedures.

### Subject Matter Areas

The subjects covered will depend on the areas of the state that training is being conducted. The training should relate to the major agricultural operations for the area. Subjects to be covered will be selected from the following:

- introduction to the Arkansas farm accident situation\*
- farm tractor accidents\*
- power-takeoff accidents\*
- auger and elevator accidents
- hay balers
- combines and pickers
- grain storage facilities
- anhydrous ammonia
- pesticide accidents and spills
- agricultural chemical fires

\*will need to be included in all training programs since these are major state-wide hazards.

### Training Material and Instructors

Training materials are available for all subject matter areas listed above. Following is a list of materials to select from for the training program. Potential instructors are also listed.

#### Films - 16mm

Tractor Safety is No Accident  
Anhydrous Ammonia Accidents  
Agricultural Tractor Safety  
Combine Safety  
Farm Implement Safety

#### Video Cassettes

Introduction to Farm Accident Rescue  
Tractor Overturn Extrication Procedures  
Tractor Operations--Starting and Stopping Procedures for Different Kinds of Tractors  
Extrication Procedures for Power-takeoff Accidents  
Extrication Procedures for Round Hay Balers  
Rescue Procedures for Grain Storage Facilities

#### Slides

Farm Safety - A Matter of Attitude  
Arkansas Farm Accident Situations

### Chemical Spills

Safe Handling of Agricultural Pesticides

Prevention and Treatment of Pesticide Poisoning

Farm Accidents--Reducing the Odds

Suffocation Hazards in Flowing Grain

### Publications

Farm Accident Emergencies - MP159

Safe Handling of Agricultural Pesticides - MP612

Prevention and Treatment of Pesticide Poisoning - MP198

Anhydrous Ammonia Safety Guide

First Aid for Shock

First Aid for Severe Bleeding

Respiratory Emergencies and Artificial Respiration

### Instructors

Extension Safety Specialist

Extension Agricultural Engineer

County Extension Agent

Farm Bureau Safety Specialist

Farm machinery dealer

Farmer

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

### Organization of Training Program

Key individuals in a county will need to meet with the program organizer to determine needs for the area, people to involved, instructors, and locations for the meeting. These individuals might include: (1) county extension agent, (2) farm machinery dealer, (3) local farmer with interest in the rescue program, and (4) representatives from emergency rescue and medical groups.

The training program will include lectures with accompanying audiovisual aids followed up with a visit to a farm and/or farm machinery dealer.

The course length will range from four to eight hours depending on the number of topics to be covered.

### Credit

After approval by The Arkansas Department of Health, participants will receive one hour of continuing education credit for each hour of participation in the course.