

VISION ZERO



GUIDE FOR INDIVIDUAL FARMERS Vision Zero Strategy for Agriculture

Three dimensions: safety, health and wellbeing





ISSA – Section on Prevention in Agriculture

Agriculture is one of the most hazardous sectors in both developing and industrialized countries. It is ranked as one of the three most hazardous industries together with mining and construction.

Ensuring safety and health at the workplace is a humanitarian and economic principle. Founded in 1969, the International Section of the ISSA on Prevention in Agriculture promotes accident prevention for all those employed in agriculture, livestock farming, horticulture and forestry.

The objectives of the Section are to:

- promote the exchange of information between the authorities engaged in prevention in agriculture and forestry;
- organize technical meetings in the form of symposium or round table conferences as well as technical commissions and working groups;
- carry out investigations and studies;
- develop programmes for education and publicity;
- produce and publish complex technical solutions for practical results;
- initiate cross-sectoral prevention measures in co-operation with other ISSA Sections.

The ISSA Agriculture Section has undertaken in-depth analysis of a variety of aspects of occupational safety and health in agriculture, especially with regard to hazards related to the use of agricultural machinery and equipment, as well as hazards arising out of using hazardous substances and dangerous goods at work. It promotes a safer behaviour at work and has published concrete recommendations for the prevention of accidents at work, occupational diseases and work-related health hazards.

The International Section of the ISSA on Prevention in Agriculture brings together institutions and individuals who are engaged in the promotion of occupational safety and health in agriculture. It gives its members opportunities to exchange information and experience and seeks to provide practical solutions to specific issues.

The Section is composed of two executive bodies: the **General Assembly** and the **Bureau**, which is composed of a **Chairperson**, two **Vice Chairpersons** and a **Secretary General**.

The Bureau is assisted by the **International Advisory Board** composed of experts from various countries. It deliberates about the Section's future activities and defines the tasks and objectives of the international accident prevention in agriculture on a long-term basis.

Members of the Bureau

Chairperson

Aleksandra Hadzik, PhD, President, Agriculture Social Insurance Fund (KRUS), Poland

Vice Chairpersons

Päivi Huotari, CEO, Farmers' Social Insurance Institution (MELA), Finland

Eric Van Daele, member of MSA's Central Office Board of Governors, Caisse Centrale de la Mutualité Sociale Agricole (MSA), France

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<https://www.issa.int/en/prevention-agriculture/>

Vision Zero Guide for Agriculture is designed to help farm owners assess the level of safety on their farms and apply the rules of a safe farm. Let's hope that thanks to the actions undertaken within the framework of the Vision Zero Strategy all over the world and thanks to popularisation of the 7 Golden Rules, we will further contribute to the protection of life, health and well-being of farmers. To achieve this objective, let's strengthen our personal involvement in the activities fostering Vision Zero.



Aleksandra Hadzik, PhD
Chairperson



Magdalena Wachnicka-Witzke
Secretary General

A BROCHURE FOR FARMERS

Safety saves your life

Agriculture is one of the most hazardous industries in Europe, measured by work-related injuries, illnesses, disabilities and deaths. It does not have to be that way. Accidents at work are neither fateful nor unavoidable – they always have causes. When we work together to eliminate these causes, accidents and occupational illnesses can be prevented.

The ISSA prevention strategy – known as “VISION ZERO” – is based on the conviction that every accident is preventable if the right steps are taken in advance. It is possible to design the working environment so that nobody is killed or harmed at work.

PREVENTION MANAGEMENT

7 Golden Rules for farms

1. Take leadership – demonstrate commitment
2. Identify hazards – control risks
3. Define targets – develop programmes
4. Ensure a safety and health system – be well-organized
5. Ensure safety and health in machines, equipment and workplaces
6. Improve qualifications – develop competence
7. Invest in people – motivate by participation

How to use this guide?

VISION ZERO is based on leaders implementing the 7 Golden Rules. Each of the 7 Golden Rules is explained with simple action items and tools for implementing them. Each action item has a traffic light indicator, so you can easily determine whether an area of responsibility is already good, whether there is room for improvements here or there, or whether you should introduce new measures that have not been used so far.

For each of the 7 Golden Rules, the guide provides a brief introduction and simple verification tips to check what have already been successfully implemented in the workplace and where there are areas to be improved. The guide contains various questions that allow to define security areas (checklist), providing a quick and simple overview of the security situation on the farm.

Effective prevention is not only a human duty, but also a reasonable investment in the future of humanity providing decent working conditions and a guarantee of the farm's success.

It is all up to you.

HOW THE STOP LIGHTS WORK

Rate your farm using the elements below.
Just check the stop light for each action item:

- No action is required at the present time
- Action required
- Urgent action required
- Not applicable

1

Take leadership – demonstrate commitment

Be a leader! The Leader's mission is to engage in health and safety at work on the farm to achieve success.

Every farmer is responsible for his safety and health, as well as his household member, on the farm. The quality of leadership not only determines how safety and health rules are put into practice, but also what actions can be introduced in the future that will enhance, improve working conditions and help achieve success. Good leadership is exhibited by predictability, consistency, attentiveness and open communication.

How do things look on my farm?

1 Farmer takes responsibility	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
Work in agriculture begins and ends with the owner of the farm. The farmer has responsibilities for safety and health: during farming process, the hiring of qualified employees, the implementation of tasks that are carried out on the farm. They all work together, have to be vigilant every day and take action to prevent risks - this is the key to safety at work!		
On a farm a farmer:		
is responsible for safety	○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○
checks whether preventive actions are implemented as part of every activity undertaken on the farm	○ ○ ○ ○	
selects employees with appropriate qualifications to perform specific tasks on the farm	○ ○ ○ ○	
establishes and cooperates with institutions acting to ensure occupational safety and health in agriculture	○ ○ ○ ○	
follows the accepted rules	○ ○ ○ ○	
tries to eliminate all dangerous activities	○ ○ ○ ○	
is interested in new activities that can improve work	○ ○ ○ ○	
makes sure that all rules of safe work are clear	○ ○ ○ ○	
makes sure that every employee knows the rules	○ ○ ○ ○	
requires each employee/household member to be trained in health and safety at work	○ ○ ○ ○	
makes sure that every employee/household member has the right tools, materials and the necessary time to do their work in a prudent and safe way	○ ○ ○ ○	
tries to learn from mistakes and accidents of employees/ household members	○ ○ ○ ○	

2 Employees/household members are engaged	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
Work in agriculture is a safety conscious workplace when employees and household members understand their rights and responsibilities and stand up for safety and health.		
On farm employees/household members:		
always feel responsible for their own safety as well as of their colleague/household member	○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○
are empowered and rewarded for actions taken to ensure safe work	○ ○ ○ ○	
stop all unsafe actions	○ ○ ○ ○	
insist on having clear rules for working safely	○ ○ ○ ○	
participate in meetings aimed at ensuring safe and healthy work and are involved in solving identified problems	○ ○ ○ ○	

2

Identify hazards – control risks

Regular inspections/spot checks serve as the main tool for systematic assessment of potentially dangerous situations that may arise during work and the subsequent introduction of appropriate preventive actions. Unfortunate accidents, damages and dangerous situations should be documented.

The farmer may use a risk assessment that helps to identify hazards and risks before accidents and production at downtimes. It also helps to evaluate potential risks as well as to document the required security measures. Properly done, a systematic risk assessment is necessary for the practical instructions used by farm workers and family members. Evaluation of accidents at work, injuries and near misses is important to identify vulnerabilities and potential areas for improvement.

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 we have a strong safety and health commitment	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
The owner is a competent person involved in ensuring safety and health at work, reporting on properly performed work.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
The owner consults practical guidance on hazards and how to control them published on the websites of his/her relevant national occupational safety and health institutions.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
The owner organizes his and his household members' work to reduce exposure to the hazards on the farm.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
The owner and farm workers use protective equipment if needed.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
The owner makes sure that the access to the hazards on the farm is prevented or secured.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
The owner, farm workers and household members are involved in the process of carrying out tasks in accordance with the principles of health and safety at work.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

2 we make sure that a simple risk assessment is prepared, documented and updated at regular intervals	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
The owner analyzes how accidents and ill health could happen and concentrates on real risks – those that are most likely and which will cause the most harm on his farm.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
The owner has an established approach for preparing a simple hazard assessment (he makes a record of the hazards on the farm, how people might be harmed by them and what he has in place to control the risks; where existing controls are not considered good enough, the owner writes down what else need to be done to control the risk).	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

3 occupational accidents, near misses and critical incidents are reported, recorded statistically and evaluated to determine the potential for improvements	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
The owner is informed immediately of all accidents, near misses and critical incidents during work and their impact on the health of any workers/household members.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
Occupational accidents, injuries and misconduct are investigated with the help of occupational health and safety professional (from the relevant social insurance institution) to determine their causes and implement preventive measures.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
The owner keeps an accident book where all the accidents and injuries are written down which helps to analyze what safety problems occur most often.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The most common causes of accidents on my farm and the resulting consequences are known to me.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The results of these analyses are incorporated in the risk assessment and prevention training/discussions with workers/household members.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4 we use information gained from the risk assessment and from accident analysis to make improvements	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
The results of the risk assessment are used to improve the conditions and quality of work on the farm.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Training and work instructions for household members and farm workers incorporate the findings of the risk assessment.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The risk assessment is reviewed and updated every year or straightaway if any major changes in the workplace happened.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3

Define targets – develop programmes

Success in occupational safety and health requires clear goals and concrete steps for implementation.

Health and safety at work have many facets, but the priority should be establishing clear goals for occupational safety and health in your work place, striving to implement them over the short and medium term. The main goal should be to continuously reduce the number of accidents at work, such as falling from a ladder, impact, crushing, eg. by an animal or a machine. If employees and stakeholders recognize that their safety and health is important on the farm and that something is being done in their work place, success will come quickly. Good owners and employees communicate regularly about the achievement of goals of the farm.

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 a farmer takes responsibility	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
defines the objectives of work undertaken on the farm ensuring the introduction of appropriate health and safety at work and reducing the number of accidents and occupational diseases	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
constantly improves the adopted goals in the field of occupational health and safety	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
the farmer makes sure that his objectives are implemented by:		
- communicating to all parties involved	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
- integration of people working on the farm	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
- implementing corrective measures when needed	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
- meetings with an OSH-expert	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

2 employees/household members are engaged	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
in understanding the farm's goals, including occupational health and safety goals	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in voluntary participation in meetings regarding reduction of accidents at work and occupational diseases organized on the farm and in institutions dealing with agriculture	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
in proposing specific goals for improving health and safety at work	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
in ceasing any work that may pose a threat to safety and health	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

4

Ensure a safety and health system – be well-organized

Organization of safety and health system is recommended. It pays off and it is not so difficult.

With well-organized occupational safety and health, the farm can be run more easily, because disruptions, production downtime and quality problems are reduced. These are good reasons to ensure proper health and safety at work on the farm - it pays!

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 farmer takes responsibility Has a clearly defined structured health and safety management system requirement which includes the following:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
the aim of promoting continuous improvement in all aspects of health and safety performance	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
commitment statements by farmer of all important elements of safety and health process	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

2 employees/household members are engaged are actively engaged in safety and health process including:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
showing positive values in the field of occupational health and safety	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
participation in job-site safety and health activities	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
performing work according to the guidelines provided by the farmer	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
reporting any potential deficiencies that may affect the health and safety at work	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
immediate cessation of any work that could result in immediate danger and report on the situation	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>

5

Ensure safety and health in machines, equipment and workplaces

Traditionally: farm, machine and workplace safety are the basis for safe work in favorable conditions. It's the best prevention!

It is very important to keep machines, equipment and workplace conditions in such a state that they meet health and safety standards, and also eliminate or minimize harmful effects on health. Of course, it is known that it is not always possible to use the latest technology. In such cases, upgrading of older devices is required. It is necessary to inform about the fact that safety is in the first place and the safe equipment itself contributes to this goal. It is worth remembering that most accidents at work happen with outdated or faulty equipment. Preventing such situations is one of the tasks of the farmer.

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 farmer takes responsibility appropriate conditions are required, in particular:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
well-organized activities as part of running a farm with preventive rules to avoid slipping, stumbling and falling	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
paying attention to minimizing noise and air pollution	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
traffic patterns that minimize risks	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
handling different materials in such a way that it does not require excessive effort of the employees/household members (optimization of the distribution of materials, agricultural equipment, machines)	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
using efficient, well-maintained equipment and tools	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

2 employees/household members are engaged operate in accordance with the arrangements, including:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
being competent to use machines, equipment and tools that have been assigned to the activity being performed	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
being trained in the use of any new machine, equipment or tools	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
checking the completeness of machines, equipment or tools before each use	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
using machines, equipment and tools only and exclusively in accordance with the relevant parameters specified by the manufacturer	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
maintenance of machinery, equipment or tools as recommended by the manufacturer	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
cease using machines, equipment or tools if any defect occurs and inform the farmer	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

6

Improve qualifications – develop competence

Invest in training and development of your employees/ household members, be sure that the required knowledge is present at every place of work!










Every person working on the farm should have professional skills and appropriate training (depending on the work). Training helps people to acquire skills and knowledge, and even appropriate competences that will enable them to do their job safely and without the risk of losing health.

People employed on the farm should have appropriate qualifications and experience that will enable them to minimize the risk of an accident at work or an occupational disease. Employment on the farm is permanent and it is necessary to regularly improve your qualifications and acquire the necessary skills. More than in other branches of the economy, in agriculture it is necessary to provide training and continue education.

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 farmer takes responsibility	Individual Rating
It is required that all people working on the farm have the appropriate skills, training and competences related to occupational health and safety	

2 employees are engaged employees/household members are engaged:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
using recently acquired skills and knowledge		
active participation in programs, training for their workplace		
assisting in the training of colleagues, especially in training aimed at young people		
if they notice the lack of knowledge and skills in risk prevention, they should contact farmer to seek instruction		
if they notice the lack of knowledge and skills regarding risk prevention by their co-workers / household members, they should inform farmer		

7

Invest in people – motivate by participation

Motivate the employees/household members by engaging them in all activities regarding occupational health and safety. This pays off!

To achieve success in health and safety management on the farm, it is necessary to achieve effective communication up, down and across. Information about all accidents, incidents, near misses or hazards should be provided to all participants - employees/household members of the farm.

A good exchange of information and communication between all elements at different levels of farm work are very important.

How do things look on my farm?

On my farm:

1 farmer takes responsibility presents a clear vision to engage everyone in the management of occupational health and safety, including:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
an open dialogue about hazards, risks and prevention in all areas of the farm work	○ ○ ○ ○	○
presenting the safety culture and its promotion in all aspects of farm work	○ ○ ○ ○	
giving the OSH instructions in a language that employees/household members can understand	○ ○ ○ ○	
meetings on the principles of occupational health and safety	○ ○ ○ ○	

2 employees/household members are engaged employees/household members are actively involved in occupational safety and health, including:	Individual Rating	Overall Rating
have positive attitude towards safety and health	○ ○ ○ ○	○
demonstrate leadership in safety and health by helping colleagues and by setting an example	○ ○ ○ ○	
participate actively in programs and meetings	○ ○ ○ ○	
report incidents, near misses and accidents	○ ○ ○ ○	
ask farmer about information regarding health and safety	○ ○ ○ ○	
inform farmer and colleagues about dangerous situations	○ ○ ○ ○	

Zero Vision Strategy creates a transparent framework and systematizes knowledge in the area of prevention and strengthens in a global and national sense the message of all those involved in health and safety at work in all branches of the economy.

The strategy requires commitment, hard work and cooperation between many parties. Ensuring effective prevention is not only an obligation, but also a reasonable investment in the future of humanity guaranteeing professional success achieved in decent working conditions.

More information on the website:

www.visionzero.global
#visionzeroglobal



The Vision Zero Guidelines for Individual Farmers have been prepared by the International Section of the ISSA on Prevention in Agriculture

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