

# Safety and Pesticides



# Be Alert!!

- Farms present certain hazards to those working on the farm, and to those just visiting.
- As an enumerator, it's important to have a good understanding of these hazards and how to protect yourself.



# Walking and Working Surfaces



- Farm landscapes are unpredictable.
- Tire ruts, Rocks, Nails, Animal droppings
- Be cautious entering barns or other buildings:
  - Ladders and stairways may be in disrepair.
  - Some barns have holes in the floor

# Power Take Offs (PTOs)

- Connects to farm implement and provides mechanical power to the implement.
- Spins at extremely high speeds.
- Caught loose clothing can entangle a person in seconds.
- Often not guarded on tractors or other farm implements.





# Livestock and Pets



- **Animals can be aggressive**
- **Don't interact with animals unknown to you.**
- **Be calm and deliberate around livestock.**
- **Avoid the animal's blind spot.**
- **Avoid loud noises/yelling**
- **Always leave yourself a way out in close quarters.**
- **Use extreme caution around male farm animals.**
- **Wash your hands**

# Dehydration

- Signs include thirst, feeling dizzy and lightheaded and having a dry or sticky mouth.
- Drink lots of fluids
- Wear loose-fitting clothing, a hat, and sunglasses
- Don't forget to use sunblock.
- Long sleeve shirts and pants are also a wise idea.
- Avoid being in the fields during the hot time of the day.



# Driving in Rural Areas



- **Inspect Your Vehicle**
- **Have Emergency Supplies**
- **Carry a Map and GPS**
- **Don't Speed**
- **Watch out for Bad Weather**
- **Be aware of Blind Dips or Curves**



# Driving Safely and Defensively

- Use Low Beams
- Don't Follow Too Close
- Don't Speed
- Use Caution at Intersections
- Look Ahead in Traffic
- Wear Seatbelt
- Avoid Impairment
- Avoid **DISTRACTIONS**





# Driving Around Farm Machinery



- Drive Defensively
- Seat belt
- Follow Speed Limits
- Be Patient
- Watch Road Condition
- Be a Role Model

# Biosecurity

- Most farms, especially livestock operations, have bio-security plans
- Enumerators need to respect operators who don't want outsiders on their operation for fear of disease contamination.



# These facilities are controlled!



- Consider calling ahead before visiting.
- Expect to see posted warning signs.
- Expect to see locked buildings.
- Be prepared to sign into a visitor log book.
- You may be asked where else you have been.
- You may not be permitted on the operation.



# Field Re-Entry Intervals

- Always be observant of any evidence that recent spraying may have occurred
- Restricted Entry Interval for many chemicals is 24-48 hours
- Organophosphorus Compounds require at least 72 hours
- Be aware of the signs of pesticide poisoning.



# Special Precautions – Organophosphates Within 30 Days



- Wear a long sleeve shirt, long trousers and head covering.
- Not wear any clothing more than one day without laundering.
- Limit work time to a maximum of 6 hours per day in these fields.
- Thoroughly wash all exposed skin (hands, face, etc.) that may have come into contact with plant foliage during the field visit.

# Stay Safe!

