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## Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America salutes farmers, ranchers during national farm safety week

Agriculture, due to its decentralized nature and diverse structure, lags other industries in reducing the toll on its workers. Its fatality rate is eight times that of the all-industry average. In a typical year, 551 workers die while doing farm work and about 88,000 suffer lost-time injuries.

The Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA) would like to take the opportunity during National Farm Safety and Health Week, September 19-25, to salute our farmers and ranchers, and all workers in agriculture, as well as their families.

“We must make certain that resources are optimally targeted,” said ASHCA Chair William Nelson, CHS Foundation. “Only a coordinated and effective approach will successfully address the most pressing occupational hazards associated with agricultural commodities, new technologies and the ever-changing profiles of agricultural workers.”

ASHCA is organizing a workshop, “Practical Safety and Health Risk Management in Production Agriculture,” scheduled for January 7, 2011, at Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta. The event will be co-located with AG CONNECT Expo 2011, and will feature proven, evidence-based strategies.

ASHCA was established in 2007 as a not-for-profit organization. Its members include producers, agribusiness, insurance, government, farmworkers, and medical and safety professionals.

A variety of membership packages are available for individuals and organizations. For information, go to [www.ashca.com](http://www.ashca.com), email [ashca@mcrf.mfldclin.edu](mailto:ashca@mcrf.mfldclin.edu) or phone 715-221-7270.