



Older, Wiser, Safer?

By

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Principal Health and Safety Inspector



Fatal Accident Rates (per 100,000)

- Industry overall (NI) 2
- Industry overall (Eire) 2
- Industry overall (ROI) 1
- Agriculture (NI) 13
- Agriculture (ROI) 13
- Agriculture (GB) 9



Fatal Accidents NI Agriculture 1997 - 2007

- 31 Machinery
- 18 Animals
- 7 Slurry Operations
- 9 Falls from height
- 9 Falling Objects
- 2 Electrocutions
- 1 Fire
- 1 Hinged Door

Total Of 78 Lives Lost!



Older Farmer Deaths - NI Farms

23 farmers (age 65 or over) killed in last 6 years (average age 74 years)

- **10 livestock**
- **8 tractors and machinery**
- **2 stuck by falling objects**
- **2 falls from a height**
- **1 hit by door in storm**



Fatalities on NI Farms

2003	9 killed	4 older farmers
2004	4 killed	2 older farmers
2005	9 killed	4 older farmers
2006	7 killed	4 older farmers
2007	7 killed	5 older farmers
2008	5 killed	4 older farmers!



Possible Causes

- Fewer new entrants to the industry
- Fewer full time young farmers
- Falling incomes
- Hard way of life
- Easier and better paid work outside farming



Deteriorating Machinery

- Machinery getting older
- Tractors getting more complicated
- Older farmers operating older tractors
- Machinery maintenance
 - Worn steering
 - Poorly maintained brakes
 - Faulty starting systems



Livestock

Older farmers:

- **Slower reaction speeds**
- **Less agile around livestock**
- **Reduced mobility**



Other Factors

- Undertaking high risk work
- Slower recovery from injury

Older farmers keeping the farm going!



Older, Wiser, Safer Campaign

- Remember your limitations
- Get help where possible
- Avoid high risk construction
- Take care around livestock
- Maintain equipment properly
- Think before you act



Older, Wiser, Safer Campaign

**All the family members can help get
the message across**



Older, Wiser, Safer Campaign

Not about stopping older farmers from working – they provide invaluable help and guidance to the next generation

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WORKING WITH TRACTORS
SAFETY FOR THE OLDER FARMER

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The Farm Information Global Network
1000 Lakes Drive, Dundee, SC15 2PW
Telephone: 0800 4333 311
www.farmSAFE.org.uk

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For further information, contact the FarmSAFE Helpline on 0800 4333 311
www.farmSAFE.org.uk

TRACTOR SAFETY

REMEMBER...

- Always wear your seat belt when driving a tractor.
- Always wear your seat belt when working on a tractor.
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WHEN WORKING WITH LIVESTOCK

Remember...

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