

Harvest warning

Don't let the increase in activity at harvest translate to an increase in accidents and injuries.

Get it before it gets you: Now is the time to prepare and plan the work carefully.

Broad acreage

Storage

- Inspect silos for structural integrity – look for signs of fatigue/rust. If faults are detected have them assessed/repared by a competent person (engineer).
- Ensure foundations are adequate to support the total weight (combined infrastructure and product) to be stored.
- If on-ground bulk-storage facilities are to be used, consider how the stockpiles are to be covered/tarped and the impact the weather (high winds) may have on undertaking this task.

Powered plant

- Ensure plant is inspected and maintained, guards are in place and equipment is operated by competent person/s (augers, tractors, slashers, bailers, conveyors)
- Shut down, disengage drives and allow plant to rundown/de-energise **before** removing any guards for maintenance or to clear blockages.

Transport

There is an increase in vehicle movement on the farms and at bulk storage facilities.

- Be seen, be safe.
- Separate vehicles and people, establish and maintain traffic management procedures.
- Contract drivers should remain in their vehicles.
- Keep children away from work environments.

Routes taken:

- Assess to ensure safe access and egress for vehicles.
- Inspect tracks for washout or undermined surfaces to minimise potential for rollover.
- Consider the weight and size of vehicles if crossing bridges /ramps, re entry onto roads from farms (other traffic).
- Look up for overhead hazards and powerlines.

For further information www.worksafevic.gov.au select Publications and search for:

- **Tractors and machinery**
- **Safety Alert – Falls from grain bunker/stockpiles**
- **Falls prevention in the agriculture sector**
- **Grain augers. A handbook for workplaces**