

Farm Safety Manual Workshops



Approaching Farm Safety can be daunting at the best of times. Today, it has become a necessity to protect not only your family working on the farm but those visiting the farm whether it be social or work related. In 2017, there were 68 deaths on farms in Australia, with two deaths occurring on dairy farms. In 2016, there were six fatalities on Australian dairy farms. Many of us have the attitude 'it won't happen to me' but there are many stories of families who have lost loved ones or have a family member with a permanent disability caused by a preventable farm accident.

To assist farmers improve their level of on-farm safety, Dairy Australia have joined with farmers and industry experts to develop a practical approach to prevent more incidents on-farm. Towards the end of 2017, Subtropical Dairy in conjunction with Dairy Australia, delivered Farm Safety Kit Workshops throughout Queensland and northern NSW. The short workshop covered a practical, easy to use resource developed by Dairy Australia to enable farmers to reduce safety risks.

Following on from this initial workshop series, Dairy Australia have now developed the Farm Safety Manual Workshop. The Farm Safety Manual provides a step by step process for a farm to address 14 key safety topics including; Quads and Motorbikes; Farm Vehicles; Tractors and Mobile Plant; Fixed Plant; Contractors; Confined Spaces; Working at Heights; Power and Electrical; Manual Handling; Working with Livestock; Farm Chemicals;

Water and Effluent; Working Environment; Visitors, Children and Traffic. Each topic has a Farm Records section to enable farmers to store completed documents. They can work through these sections at their own pace building a farm safety system as they go. Each section contains tools to ensure farmers cover all legal and practical requirements. It takes a step-by-step approach to build and maintain a safety system, including all background information and records.

At the workshop, farmers will be given a Farm Safety Manual and shown how to use it. Participants will get to choose two key safety topics to discuss in detail as a group. They will also be shown how and where to access policies, self-assessments and other word templates on the Dairy Australia website. These resources can be customised for individual farms. A Farm Safety expert will be in attendance at these workshops to answer any questions. ■ ■

The Farm Safety Manual Workshops started in March 2018 in Gympie and Nanango.

The workshops below are being held in the following locations in June 2018.

BELLINGEN - 4th June

CASINO - 5th June

MALANDA - 6th June

BOONAH - 26th June

TOOWOOMBA - 27th June

Further information will be emailed out in the coming weeks.

For more information, contact your local coordinator or visit www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/farm-safety/dairyhomesafely