Farm injury deaths continue to impact rural communities

Figures released today by the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety illustrate little change in the number of on-farm fatal injuries for the first quarter of 2017.

“No deaths are acceptable, as these events are almost always preventable” said Dr Tony Lower from the Centre.

“The unenviable safety record of quads is again being highlighted as they top the list with six fatal on-farm cases, two of which involved children. Quads also make up 33% of the total number of non-fatal incidents reported in the media.”

“We strongly encourage farmers to use other safer vehicles that are more stable and suitable for the many and varied tasks on the farm. If that is not possible and you are continuing to use a quad, then ensure a crush protection device is fitted, wear a helmet and follow basic riding safety practices.”

“A copy of the report and a wide range of materials that can assist those that work and live on farms to reduce the risks to themselves, farm workers, family members and visitors, is available from the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety web site www.aghealth.org.au on 02 6882 1486 for further information.

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