

Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - September 30, 2013

Background

Australian print media provides an avenue to highlight the prevalence of farm related deaths and injuries. The process of media monitoring has been used by the National Farm Injury Data Centre (NFIDC) since 2005 to assist in the collection of information on farm injury events (fatal and non-fatal). This report focuses on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1st to September 30th 2013.

Deaths

There were approximately 2,088 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA (formerly Media Monitors Australia) during the period. A total of 43 on-farm deaths were reported for this period:

- Eight (19%) of the 43 deaths involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad bike (n=8), tractor (n=8) and mobile farm machinery/plant (n=5) related deaths, were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad bike related fatality. There were a further five fatal injury events that occurred off-farm that were reported in the print media for this period (i.e. there were a total of 13 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).

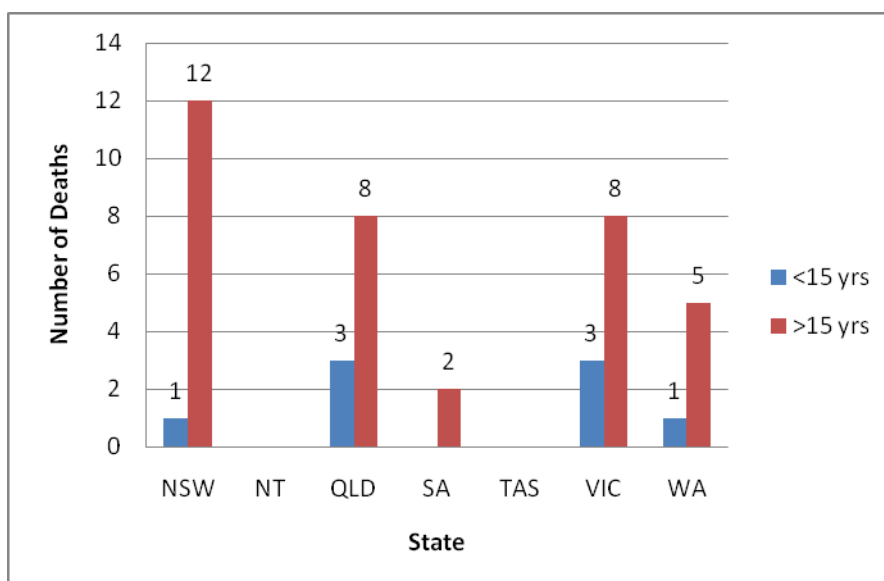


Figure 1: On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state, Jan-Sept 2013.

Table 1: Agents of injury causing death as reported in Australian print media by age, Jan-Sept 2013.

Category	Agent	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Farm Vehicle	Utility	1		1
	Quad Bike	1	7	8
	Motorcycle	1	1	2
	Side By Side Vehicle		3	3
	Truck		1	1
	Trailer		1	1
	Farm Vehicle NEC*	2	1	3
Materials	Materials Other NEC*		1	1
Electricity	Powerlines		1	1
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Tractor		8	8
	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*	2	3	5
Farm Structure	Dam	1		1
	Windmill		1	1
	Cattle		2	2
Animal	Horse		2	2
Working Environment	Trees being felled	0	1	1
Other	Firearm		1	1
TOTAL		8	35	43

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 85 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the January 1st to September 30th 2013 period.

- Fourteen (17%) of the 85 injury events involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad bike related injury (n=36) accounted for 42% of all incidents. This was followed by chemical (n=12), tractor (n=7) and motorbike (n=5) related incidents.
- For quad bikes there were 30 additional injuries that occurred off-farm and that were captured by media monitoring (i.e. there were a total of 66 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases).

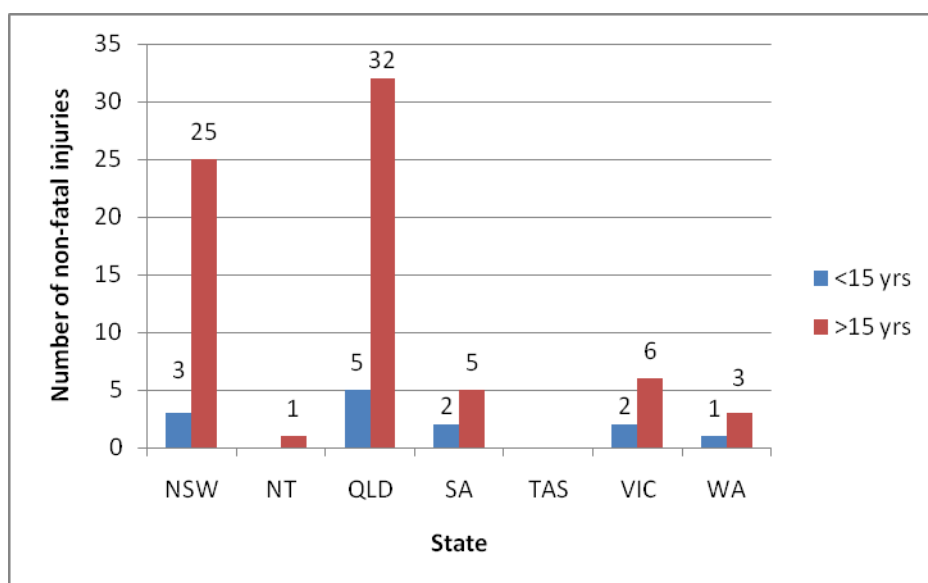


Figure 2: On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, Jan-Sept 2013.

Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, Jan-Sept 2013.

Category	Agent	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft	0	0	0
	Utility	0	0	0
	Quad Bike	8	28	36
	Motorcycle	1	4	5
	Side By Side Vehicle	1	0	1
	Helicopter	0	0	0
	Truck	0	2	2
	Trailer	0	0	0
	Farm Vehicle NEC*	1	2	3
Farm Chemicals	Pesticides [#]	0	12	12
	Fuel	0	1	1
Materials	Materials Other NEC	0	2	2
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Tractor	1	6	7
	Grain Auger	0	2	2
	Earth Moving Equipment	0	0	0
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC	0	4	4
	Harvesting Machine	0	4	4
Farm Structure	Dam	1	0	1
	Irrigation Channel	0	0	0
	Silo	0	0	0
Animal	Cattle	0	1	1
	Horse	1	2	3
Working Environment	Trees being felled	0	0	0
Other	Firearm	0	1	1
TOTAL		14	71	85

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Incident involved 12 individuals potentially exposed to Paraquat