

## Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - June 30, 2015

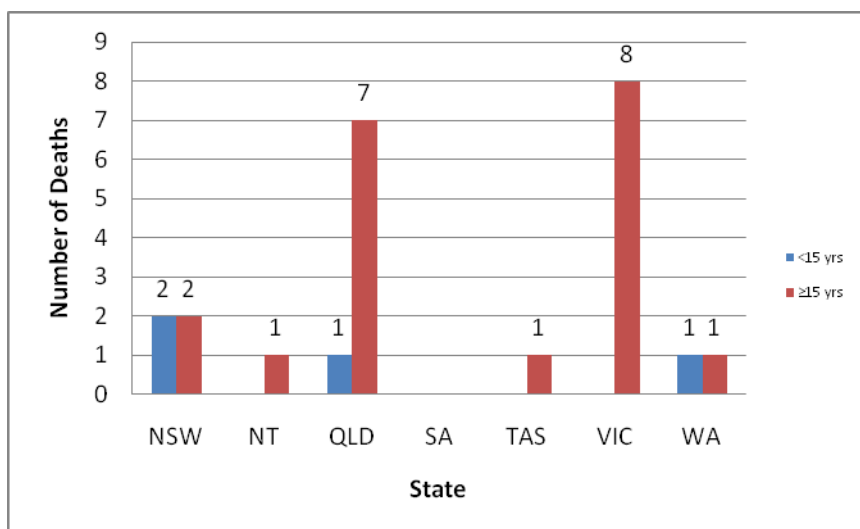
### Background

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 predominantly on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015. It also captures non-farm quad bike related fatality and injury over the same period.

### Deaths

There were approximately 882 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA during the period. A total of 24 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=24) is almost the same as that for the corresponding period in 2014 (n=23).
- Four (16.6%) of the 24 deaths involved a child aged 15 years and under.
- Quads (n=8), tractors (n=8) and motorcycles (n=2) were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad related fatality. There were three additional fatal injury events that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 11 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).



**Figure 1:** On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**Table 1:** Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian print media by age, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

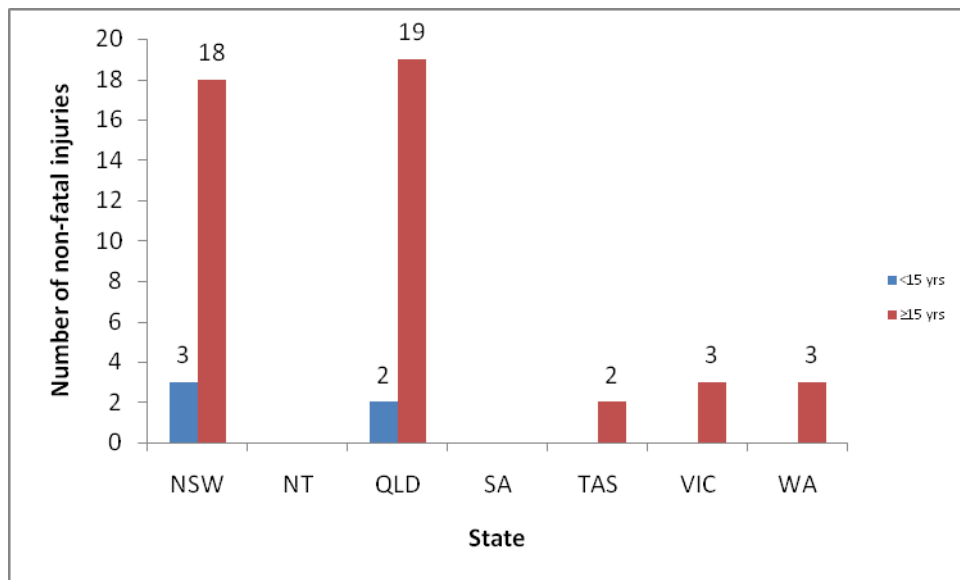
Category	Agent	2014			2015		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle						
	Horse						
Electricity	Powerlines		1	1			
Farm Structure	Dam	1		1	1		1
	Roof/Shed door		2	2			
	Cattle dip (drowned)						
	Windmill						
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft					1	1
	Farm Vehicle NEC*					1	1
	Helicopter		1	1		1	1
	Motorcycle					2	2
	Quad	2	4	6	2	6	8
	Side By Side Vehicle						
	Trailer						
	Truck						
	Utility		3	3			
Materials	Materials Other NEC*						
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Tractor		4	4	1	7	8
	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1			
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		2	2		1	1
Other	Explosion		1	1			
Working Environment	Trees being felled		1	1		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

### Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 50 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

- Six (12%) of the 50 injury events involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad related injury (n=19) accounted for 38% of all incidents. This was followed by mobile plant /machinery related incidents (n=6).
- For quads, there were nine additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 28 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).



**Figure 2:** On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Table 2:** Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media,  
1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Category	Agent	2015		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Horse		4	4
	Cattle		4	4
Electricity	Powerlines			
Farm Chemicals	Fuel			
	Pesticides			
Farm Vehicle	Farm Vehicle NEC*		1	1
	Helicopter			
	Motorcycle		3	3
	Quad	4	15	19
	Side By Side Vehicle		1	1
	Truck			
	Utility	1		1
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*	1	6	7
	Tractor		4	4
Other	Grain auger			
	Firearm		2	2
	Lightning			
	Snake		2	2
	Bee		1	1
Environment	Tree ( Felled)		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified