

# Nurture

Quarterly Newsletter of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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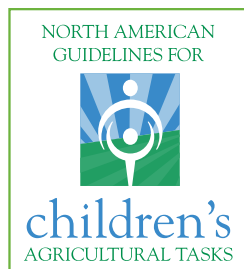
Progressive Agriculture receives Canadian award



National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

*"The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety strives to enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments."*

## NAGCAT thrives in first decade: Guidelines studied, tested, accepted



In 1999, the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) were released as a resource to help adults

match a child's physical and mental abilities with the requirements of agricultural jobs.

Ten years later, the guidelines have been accepted by parents, translated into several languages, studied by researchers and shown to be effective in reducing childhood agricultural injury prevention.

"The guidelines have become a primary approach for preventing childhood agricultural injuries," said Barbara Lee, Ph.D., director of the National Children's Center and co-author of the guidelines with Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D. The guidelines have been adapted to other cultures and languages. They have been translated into Spanish, Swedish and French. In addition, they have been used as the basis for sugarcane work guidelines in The Philippines, cotton and peanut work guidelines in the U.S., and a book of short safety stories in the Hmong language.

Upon request from agricultural employers who hire teenagers, new resources were developed and released in 2008. Safety Guidelines for Hired Adolescent Farm Workers are appropriate for situations where young adults are legally employed to conduct agricultural work. These new resources, derived from the original NAGCAT, are available with a supervisor's training manual. These guidelines are valid in situations where U.S. Child Labor in Agriculture Regulations apply.

Eight studies of NAGCAT have been funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and two by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The most notable study regarding the efficacy of these guidelines was conducted in central New York by Anne Gadomski,



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### Showcase your safety work at AG CONNECT



Exhibitors are needed for the "Safety Zone" at AG CONNECT Expo 2010, January 12-15, at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. Free exhibit space is available courtesy of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM). Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program staff and volunteers will work with AEM to coordinate the Safety Zone. "All we ask is that you set up some type of educational demonstration or activity," said Susan Reynolds, Executive Director - Programs for the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program. To take advantage of this opportunity, contact Reynolds, 205-871-0646 or sreynolds@progressiveag.org by December 18, 2009.

### New brochure on farm safety from NIOSH

A concise brochure with tips on keeping youth safe on farms is available from NIOSH. "Injuries to Youth on Farms and Safety Recommendations, U.S. 2006," includes sections on animals, machinery and falls. Go to <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2009-117/>.

### In press: Child bystanding

"Child bystanding: A risk factor for injury and identifying its determinants on midwestern agricultural operations" (Williams QL, Alexander H, Gerberich SG, Nachreiner NM, Church TR, Ryan A) is in press in the journal Accident Analysis and Prevention (Epub July 2009). The authors evaluated the incidence and determinants of associated bystander injuries in the Regional Rural Injury Study-II (RRIS-II). They concluded that "although parents cannot child-proof their operations, it is important for them to understand the apparent ... risks associated with bystanding." Children can have injury risks similar to adults in this environment.

Other recent papers from authors in this group include:

- "Parents' safety beliefs and childhood agricultural injury," American Journal of Industrial Medicine (2009;52:724-733).
- "Children's behavioral traits and risk of injury: Analyses from a case-control study of agricultural households," Journal of Safety Research (2009;40:97-103).

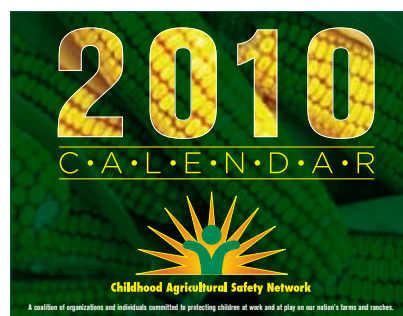
### Oregon study looks at pesticide effects on children

A study from the Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (PNASH), out of Oregon Health & Science University, is measuring potential health effects of chronic OP exposure using repeated tests in a longitudinal study of school-age children living in an agricultural region in Oregon. The five-year study is in its fourth year. It will measure the children's potential lifetime exposure to pesticides by using an icon-based interview approach focusing on the work history of parents and residence in agricultural areas. Dust samples from the homes will be analyzed for OP pesticides to evaluate current potential exposure. For more information on the study visit <http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/research/centers-institutes/croet/faculty.cfm> or contact Diane Rohlman, Ph.D., rohlmand@ohsu.edu.

### Dr. Marlenga honored by her peers with Sebold award

Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D., deputy director of the National Children's Center, was presented with the Gwen D. Sebold Research Fellowship on November 18. The Sebold award recognizes an outstanding Marshfield Clinic researcher. Dr. Marlenga was nominated by her peers at the Clinic and will receive \$5,000 to support continued research. The award was established in 1987 by D. David "Dewey" Sebold in honor of his sister, Gwen, a Marshfield Clinic medical stenographer who died of cancer in 1974. Sebold was president and CEO executive officer at Tombstone Pizza Corporation before establishing his own asset management and business-consulting firm.

### CASN calendars printed



The 2010 Childhood Agricultural Safety Network calendar has been printed. It can be viewed at [http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/?page=nccrahs\\_casn](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/?page=nccrahs_casn). Each month is sponsored by a different CASN member, and carries a specific safety message. Limited print copies are available. Contact the National Children's Center, [nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu](mailto:nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu), 1-800-662-6900 or 715-389-4999.



## National Children's Center external advisors meet

The impact and long-term direction of the National Children's Center were discussed during the center's External Scientific Advisors meeting, October 21-22, 2009, in Minneapolis, facilitated by Sharon Dorfman, Sc.M., of SPECTRA.

The advisors also heard an update on center projects including Stakeholder Communications/Digital Dissemination, Motivating Farm Parents to Create Safe Play Areas on Farms, Integrating Safety Guidelines for Hired Adolescent Farm Workers into Field Supervisors' Practice, Economics of Youth Farm Labor and Farm Injuries, Childhood Agricultural Safety Network, the Mini-grant Program and Enduring Programs such as NAGCAT

Advisors attending included: Susan Gerberich, Ph.D., University of Minnesota/Director Midwest NIOSH-Education and Research Center; Paul Gunderson, Ph.D., Dakota Center for Technology-Optimized Agriculture; John May, M.D., Director, Northeast NIOSH Agricultural Research Center; Karen Mountain, M.B.A., Director, Migrant Clinicians Network; Dennis Murphy, Ph.D., Penn State University; David Parker, M.D., Park-Nicollet Clinic, Minneapolis; William Pickett, Ph.D., Queens University, Ontario; Deborah Reed, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Southeast NIOSH Agricultural Research Center; and Lorann Stallones, Ph.D., Director, CDC-Injury Center at Colorado State University. Also attending were Susan Gallagher, M.P.H., Tufts University; and David Hard, Ph.D., NIOSH.

## Funding opportunity from USDA

The request for applications for FY 2010 has been posted for the Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification Program (YFSEC). Application deadline is January 21, 2010. Anticipated award date is May 3, 2010. Estimated total funding for the program is \$466,650, with an award range of \$100,000 to \$300,000. There are no cost-sharing requirements. For more information, go to <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/youthfarmsafetyeducationandcertification.cfm>.

## Mini-grants focus on vulnerable populations

For the ninth consecutive year the National Children's Center has made available funding to support small-scale projects and pilot studies that address prevention of childhood agricultural disease and injury. Three of four mini-grants for FY 2010 focus on vulnerable populations. Since 2002, 35 projects have been funded in amounts up to \$20,000. Approximately half of the projects have covered vulnerable populations.

The newly-funded projects:

- "Building Community Resources to Address Health and Safety Concerns for Children of Migrant and Seasonal Workers." PI - Karin Opacich, PhD, University of Illinois.
- "Reaching Hired Young Farm Workers: Dissemination of a High School ESL Curriculum." PI - Robin Baker, MPH, University of California.
- "Technologies of Engagement: Using computer based scenarios to educate clinicians about real life hazards for adolescent farmworkers." PI - Amy Liebman, MPA, Migrant Clinicians Network.
- "Lazy O Farm: Addressing child health and safety in agritourism." PI - Robin Tutor, MPH, East Carolina University.

## Progressive Agriculture receives Canadian award

Safe Communities Canada has announced that Progressive Agriculture Foundation that sponsors Progressive Agriculture Safety Days was named as the 2009 recipient of its National Ambassador for Safety Community Service Partner Award. The Ambassador for Safety Community Service Partner Award recognizes a community group, government entity or charitable organization within the network of Canadian designated safe communities that has made a significant contribution to promoting a culture of safety and reducing the risk of injury.



Progressive Agriculture Foundation was cited for its community-focused and inclusive approach to reach people across Canada through the hundreds of educational programs and Progressive Agriculture Safety Days.

## NAGCAT thrives in first decade

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M.D., M.P.H., of Bassett Research Institute, which showed that parents who assigned work based on the guidelines reduced child injuries by nearly one-half.

Sixty-two illustrated NAGCAT posters are available online ([www.nagcat.org](http://www.nagcat.org)) and intended for use by parents of children ages 7 to 16 years. A new search function allows the user to type the name of a task in the search box, bringing up all relevant guidelines.

## Schedule of upcoming events

### January 12-15, 2010

AG CONNECT Expo  
Orlando, Florida, <http://www.agconnect.com/>

### January 27-28, 2010

"Be Safe, Be Profitable: Protecting Workers in Agriculture," Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. Co-organized by the Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). This conference will unite leaders of agricultural organizations and agribusinesses with safety practitioners, researchers, producers, and workers. Via plenary sessions, expert panels and research networking they will share knowledge regarding evidence-based interventions and program experiences that lead to identification and adoption of high quality, cost-effective safety practices for workers in agriculture. See [www.ashca.com](http://www.ashca.com).

### February 12-14, 2010

19th Annual Western Migrant Stream Forum  
Seattle, Washington, <http://www.nwrpca.org/>

### June 26-July 1, 2010

National Institute for Farm Safety  
Wilmington, North Carolina, <http://nifsagsafety.org/index.cfm>

**Nurture** is a publication of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (a program of Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin).

It is published three times each year to disseminate children's rural health and safety information to professionals in the fields of health and safety, agri-business, the media, and others.

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