

Farm Families ALIVE & WELL

I-CASH | Iowa's Center for
Agricultural Safety and Health
The University of Iowa • Iowa State University
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Iowa Department of Public Health • Non-profits for Farm Health

News from Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)

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Agricultural Medicine Course Held June 9-13

Thirty-eight participants from across the US, and as far away as Finland, attended the *Agricultural Medicine: Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals* course held June 9-13 in Iowa City, IA. The training program, sponsored by the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health, University of Iowa College of Public Health, College of Medicine, College of Nursing, Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, and the Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety, provides the information and skills needed to enable health and safety professionals to anticipate, recognize, and prevent occupational illnesses and injuries among members of the agricultural community.

One of the course highlights this year was the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) grain rescue demonstration. During the demonstration, volunteers climbed into a modified grain bin filled with corn while NECAS Director Dan Neenan explained how to rescue someone who has been engulfed in grain. Since a person can be completely buried in grain within 20 seconds, knowing how to act fast to save lives is important for both farmers and rescue personnel.



The National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) conducted a grain bin rescue demonstration as part of the Agricultural Medicine Course. (Photo by John Choate)

continued on page 3

New I-CASH Director Announced

by Peter S. Thorne, MS, PhD
Past Interim I-CASH Director

I am pleased to welcome Dr. Brandi Janssen as the new Director of I-CASH. Brandi joined the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at the end of May as Assistant Professor and is ideally suited to take the reins. She has very quickly become fully engaged in I-CASH activities. Brandi grew up on a beef cattle farm in the Missouri Ozarks and has lived in Iowa for many years. She received a BA from Grinnell College, and an MA and PhD in Anthropology from the University of Iowa where her research examined the production and marketing strategies of direct market farmers in eastern Iowa. Brandi has served as president of Field to Family, a Johnson County non-profit dedicated to developing new markets for local farmers and as the Iowa City Community School District's Farm to School Coordinator. Her skill set in agriculture is both scholarly and practical; she brings extensive on-farm research experience as well as a background in engagement with diverse farm support organizations. We are very excited about the future of I-CASH under Brandi's leadership. Those of us who have led I-CASH over the past 7 months (Fred Gerr, Matt Nonnenmann, Diane Rohlman and me), will continue to be fully engaged in I-CASH activities and we look forward to the launch of our strategic planning efforts.



Peter S. Thorne
MS, PhD



Brandi Janssen
PhD

Dr. Peter Thorne can be reached at 319/335-4216 (peter-thorne@uiowa.edu).
Dr. Brandi Janssen can be reached at 319/335-4190 (brandi-janssen@uiowa.edu).

I-CASH is seeking nominations for the **2014 Agricultural Safety and Health Hall of Fame Award**. This award recognizes individuals or organizations in the public or private sector who have made substantial, long-term contributions to the health and safety of Iowa's agricultural community. Nominees should have contributed in a leadership role to agricultural safety and health issues through promotion and awareness over a considerable length of time. Prevention, education, program evaluation, policy education, policy development, and organizational infrastructure are potential areas for outstanding merit. The nomination form is available on the I-CASH website at <http://cph.uiowa.edu/icash/programs/Hall-of-Fame>. The **submission deadline is August 22, 2014**. For more information contact Julia Venzke at julia-venzke@uiowa.edu.



Make plans to stop by the Health and Safety Tent (Lot #742) while at the Farm Progress Show, August 26-28. The Show will be held at the junction of Highways 30 and 17, just east of Boone, Iowa. Many of the I-CASH and GPCAH program partners will be involved, providing displays, resource materials, and demonstrations. For more information contact Kathy Leinenkugel, Iowa Department of Public Health Occupational Health & Safety Surveillance Coordinator at 515/281-4930 or kathy.leinenkugel@idph.iowa.gov. Watch for updates at www.idph.state.ia.us/LPP/OHSSP.aspx.

The Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) is seeking applications for its Pilot/Feasibility Projects Program. These projects can lead to the development of new and creative research, prevention, intervention, outreach, education, evaluation, or translation findings and outcomes. They can explore new activities or directions, or take advantage of special opportunities. Letters of intent are due August 1, 2014; proposal deadline is September 5, 2014. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Risto Rautiainen, Center Director at rrautiainen@unmc.edu or Dr. Eleanor Rogan, Director of Pilot/Feasibility Projects at egrogan@unmc.edu regarding scientific questions. Please contact Ellen Duysen at ellen.duysen@unmc.edu (402/552-3394) for questions related to administrative procedures. For more information visit www.unmc.edu/publichealth/cscash/180.htm



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Tractor Safety Coalition Formed

Farmers and farm advocates joined representatives from agricultural companies and manufacturers, as well as government officials and health and safety experts in a two-day meeting May 21-22 to form the National Tractor Safety Coalition (NTSC). The purpose of the new coalition is to reduce tractor-related injuries and deaths on US farms. During the meeting, participants established the following immediate and long-term goals to move this issue forward:

- Increasing funding for ROPS programs;
- Among state and federal legislators, building awareness of ROPS and its impact on farm deaths and requesting funding for a national ROPS program;
- Expanding data collection about accidents as well as ROPS success stories; and
- Improving tractor safety training opportunities.

Individuals interested in learning more about the NTSC may call Pam Tinc at the Northeast Center for Agricultural Health at 607/547-6023.

MRASH Conference continued from page 4 and agricultural safety and health, including health planners and administrators; health care providers; agricultural safety and health, occupational health and environmental health professionals; insurers; educators; agricultural engineers; farm organization representatives; farmers; employers of migrant farm workers; media; local, state and national policy makers.

Details and registration information will be posted on the conference website at <http://cph.uiowa.edu/icash/events/MRASH-IRHA/2014>. For additional information, contact Gayle Olson (319/931-1351, gayle-olson@uiowa.edu) or Melissa Primus (515/282-8192, mprimus@iaruralhealth.org).

I-CASH Agricultural Youth Grant Winners Announced

Each year I-CASH designates funds for community grants targeted at the prevention of farm-related injury in young people and their families. The Agricultural Youth Injury Prevention Grant program typically provides grants of up to \$500 each for projects designed to decrease the risk of illness and injury from agricultural exposures to youth living on Iowa farms, or otherwise involved in production agriculture. Since 2005, seventy-three grants have been awarded to forty-eight organizations totaling over \$35,000. I-CASH has awarded funds to nine farm safety projects this year.



- **Clay Central/Everyly Middle School FFA** - Middle school students will present an interactive workshop on hearing protection at two Farm Safety Day events.
- **Clay County Countrymen 4-H** - Working with the fire department, 4-H members will demonstrate extinguisher use and encourage farmers have extinguishers inspected.
- **Delaware County Extension** - Three FFA chapters will provide Safety Day events.
- **Logan Larks 4-H Club** - Smoke detector presentations for K-3rd graders will be provided, and smoke detectors will be distributed in the community.
- **Louisa County 4-H Youth Council** - A Farm Safety Day for 5th graders will be held; safety glasses, ear plugs, and first aid kits will be distributed.
- **Mahaska County 4-H** - The 4-H Teen Council will address healthy hand washing at the county fair.
- **Shooting Stars 4-H Club** - Animal and tractor safety programs will be presented during the county fair. Handouts and hand gel will be distributed.
- **Washington Busy Beavers 4-H Club** - Farm Day participants will learn about animals, tractors, and ATVs through demonstrations.
- **Washington County 4-H & Extension** - The *Stay Safe, Take a Break* project will provide goodie bags to farmers during harvest season to promote safety.

For more information on the grant program visit the I-CASH web page at <http://cph.uiowa.edu/licash/programs/Youth-Ag-Safety-Grants/index.html>.

Ag Medicine course continued from page 1

In addition to the classroom training, the participants toured Amana Farms and enjoyed a family-style dinner at the Ronneburg Restaurant in Amana, IA. An evening reception with University of Iowa faculty, staff and students provided an opportunity for networking, a poster session, and additional opportunities to view the grain engulfment demonstration.

The course will also be held in Omaha, NE on July 8-11, and Fort Worth, TX on November 17-18. For information on the Agricultural Medicine Training program, visit <http://cph.uiowa.edu/gpcab/training>.

calendar

July 8-11

Agricultural Medicine Training
Omaha, NE
<http://cph.uiowa.edu/gpcab/training>

August 26-28

Farm Progress Show
Boone, IA
www.farmprogressshow.com

September 9-11

Husker Harvest Days
Grand Island, NE
www.huskerharvestdays.com

September 10-11

Fall Harvest Safety Days
Peosta, IA
www.necasag.org

September 21-27

National Farm Safety & Health Week

October 19-22

Safety & Health in Agricultural & Rural Populations: Global Perspectives
Saskatoon, SK, Canada
www.sharp2014.usask.ca

November 15-19

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
New Orleans, LA
www.apha.org/meetings/annual

November 17-18

Agricultural Medicine Training
Fort Worth, TX
<http://cph.uiowa.edu/gpcab/training>

November 19-20

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH)
Ankeny, IA
<http://cph.uiowa.edu/licash/events/MRASH-IRHA/2014>

November 20-22

Annual Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
San Antonio, TX
www.ncfh.org

November 20

National Rural Health Day
<http://celebratepowerofrural.org>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Transforming Safety and Health in the Heartland

by Gayle Olsen, I-CASH Assistant to the Director

Are you confused by all the changes going on in the health field these days? The health and safety of rural residents and farm families are influenced by research, outreach & education, clinical practice and health policy, all currently undergoing transformational changes. In order to better understand these changes and the resulting implications, the Iowa Rural Health Association (IRHA), Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH) and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) are joining forces to host a two-day conference with the theme *Transforming Safety and Health in the Heartland*. This conference will be held November 19-20 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, IA, and will serve as both the Iowa Rural Health Association's Fall Meeting and the 13th annual Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health (MRASH) Conference.

Objectives for the conference include the following:

- Strengthen collaborative relationships among rural and agricultural health partners.
- Explore models of community care coordination appropriate to rural areas and/or agricultural audiences.
- Understand the policy implications of the Affordable Care Act and its impact on rural and agricultural health.
- Discuss innovative ways to combine the strengths of research, policy, prevention and clinical perspectives to improve rural and agricultural health outcomes.
- Become acquainted with emerging research and key organizations in rural and agricultural health.

In order to accomplish these goals, the conference will investigate the transformations from both a broad and a grassroots perspective. The conference is targeted to participants representing many different perspectives of rural

continued on page 2