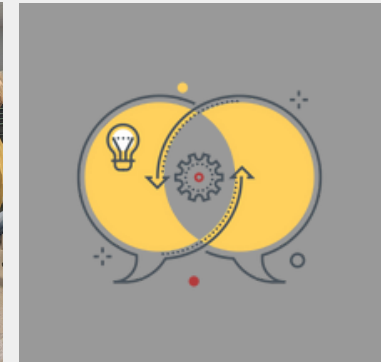
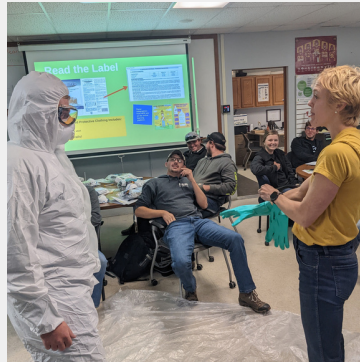


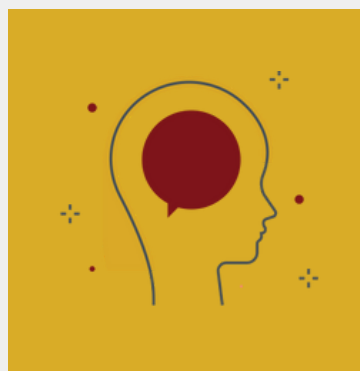


2022-2023 Program Year Report

2022-2023
Program Year Report



GearUp
for Ag™



WHO WE ARE

Ag Health and Safety Alliance™ is an international nonprofit organization, registered in the US and Canada, that focuses on health and safety for the next generation of agriculture. Our programs are tailored specifically to our audience with ongoing development and promotion of dynamic programs.

CORE PROGRAM

Gear Up for Ag Health and Safety focuses on educating the next generation of agriculture by interacting with students at ag colleges and high schools. This program is applicable to any student engaged in agriculture.

WHAT WE DO

We deliver customized programs focusing on agricultural health and safety exposures at work and at home.

- **Interactive education + Demonstrations**
- **eLearning Resources**
- **International Program Delivery**
- **Pre and Post Student Surveys**
- **Innovative 360 + Virtual Reality Resources**
- **PPE Kits including respiratory +hearing protection, safety glasses, chemical-resistant gloves**

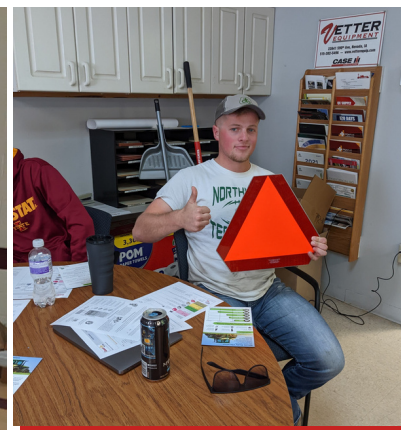
2022-2023 PROGRAM YEAR REPORT

This report provides information for the 2022-2023 academic year and focuses mainly on the Gear Up for Ag programs in the US and Canada. This does not include other types of educational programs and work done with our partners. Check out video Highlights from our 2022 Gear Up for Ag programs in the US and Canada.



2022 Highlights Video

Scan the QR code to view Video Highlights



Program Locations

Canada and the United States

30

Programs

19

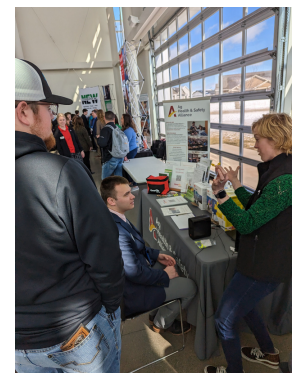
Colleges & Universities



Other educational events for college and high school students:

In September 2022, AHSA taught high school students about the importance of PPE with an emphasis on hearing protection and eye safety at the **Precision Ag Days** in Northwest Iowa which 200 students attended. CS-CASH provided each student with hearing protection and safety glasses.

In March 2023, the **Professional Ag Students annual conference** reached approximately 400 students. Partnering with GPCAH to provide education on hearing exposures and prevention strategies. Several types of hearing protection were given to students.



Student Feedback

This year, we asked participants if they had ever remembered engaging in agricultural health and safety discussions with their healthcare provider (such as a nurse or pediatrician) and only **14%** stated 'yes'.

We believe that participation in the program may affect others as well since **89%** stated that they had shared some health and safety tips from the program with their own family members, friends, or co-workers in agriculture after the Gear Up for Ag™ program. **91%** used the PPE they received during the Gear Up for Ag programs.

Three years ago, AHSA began asking young adults working in agriculture what they would like to learn during this program. This year's most popular responses included:

- Respiratory Hazards**
- Grain Handling**
- Work Productivity**
- Emergency Response**

Other common topics included vaccines, handling animals and disease prevention, sunburn, agrochemical loading, general safety, and small, easy safety habits on ATVs.

"Student feedback is an important aspect of our Gear Up for Ag Program. Post it Note activities, pre and post-survey data and one-to-one conversations assist our team in identifying what is important to the students and in finding creative ways to address the agricultural health and safety issues that are impacting the next generation of agriculture."

Gear Up for AG Team

Carolyn Sheridan, David Sullivan, Jenna Gibbs, Stefan Mandić-Rajčević, Alex Beach

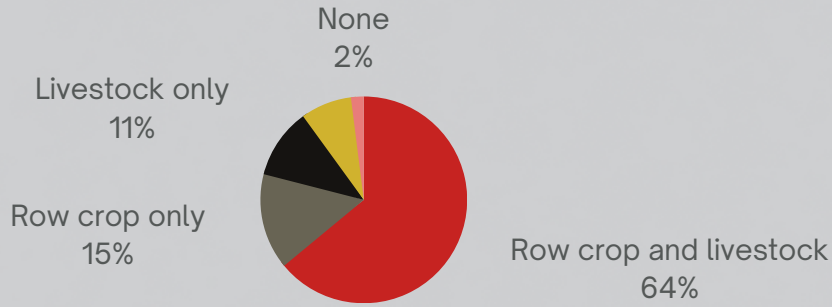


[Click to listen to students from OLDS College](#)



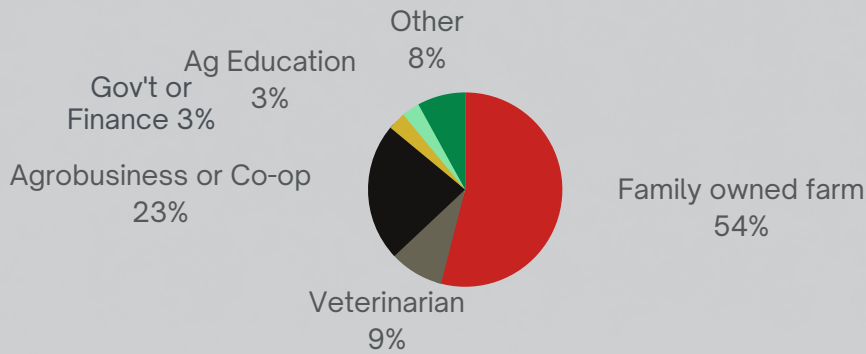
[Lakeland College](#)

Type of Agriculture



Most of the participants in these programs were young adults ages 17-26 years old who have been performing work on the farm since they were 5-12 years old.

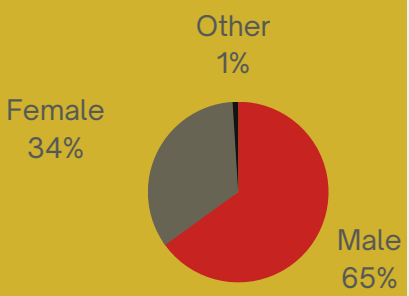
Plans after College



Over half (64%) of these young adults were involved in row crop and livestock production.

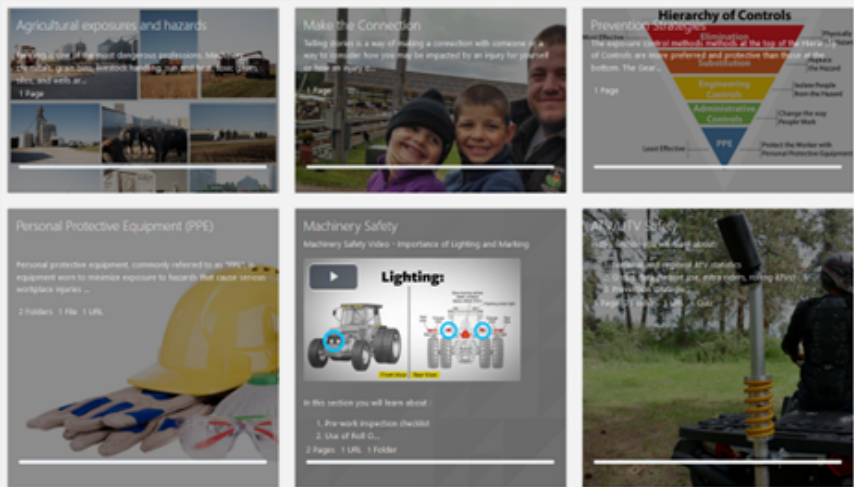
54% of students plan to return to the family owned farm and 23% planning on working in agrobusiness or a cooperative.

Ridgetown Campus - Ontario



Online Gear Up for Ag eLearning

The Ag Health and Safety Alliance's eLearning platform (learn.aghealthandsafety.com) has been regularly updated to improve both ease of access and security. Considering the number of health and safety topics and materials presented to the students, we found a need to develop a more streamlined presentation of the contents. Therefore, from the linear approach, we have moved to the tiles approach. The new approach allowed the students to have a better overview of the content, with each topic showing a progress bar motivating students to access the content.



Drone and 360 Videos

Drone and 360 videos are captured and shared with students and instructors during the Gear Up for Ag programs and in post-program reports. These videos are also used for future educational resources and presentation.



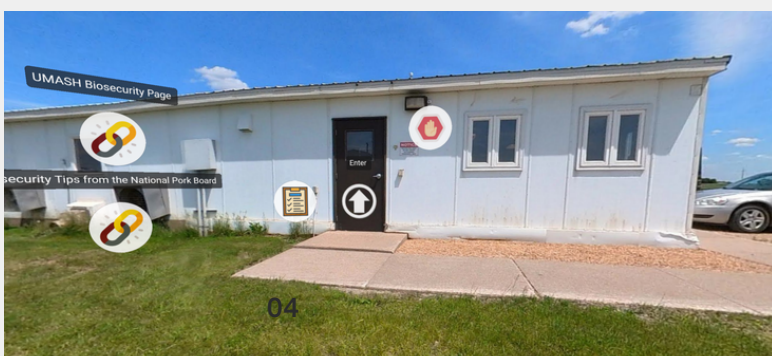
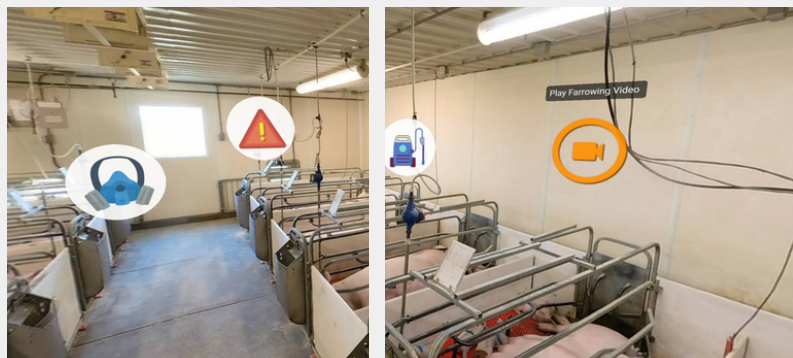
360° Video eLearning Tools

360-degree images and video are somewhat different from Virtual Reality (VR) – the main difference is that VR uses not only visual aid (seeing an environment) but also various sensors which react to a person’s movements and imitate the person moving through the environment, touching various stuff and causing something to happen - interaction. In 360, looking around and interacting with the environment happens through the screen (mouse or touch interface).

Although you can see all around, the environment is static, and the interaction happens through various “add-ons” we add to the environment, such as info buttons, images, videos, etc. Nevertheless, the technology is much cheaper, simpler to use, and readily available.

AHSA partnered with SWAG and UMASH to develop two new 360 video eLearning tools.

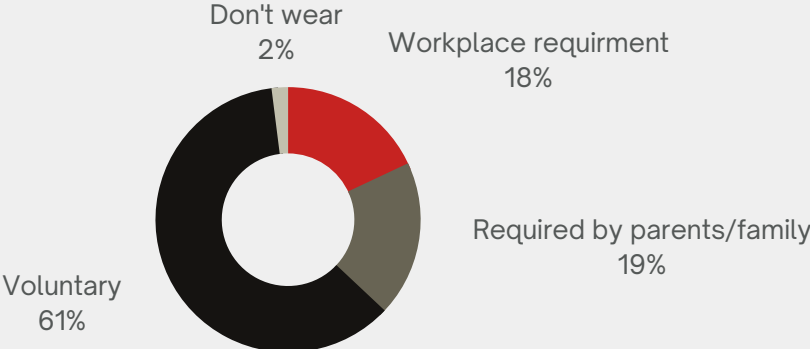
Scan the QR Code to
view Power Tools



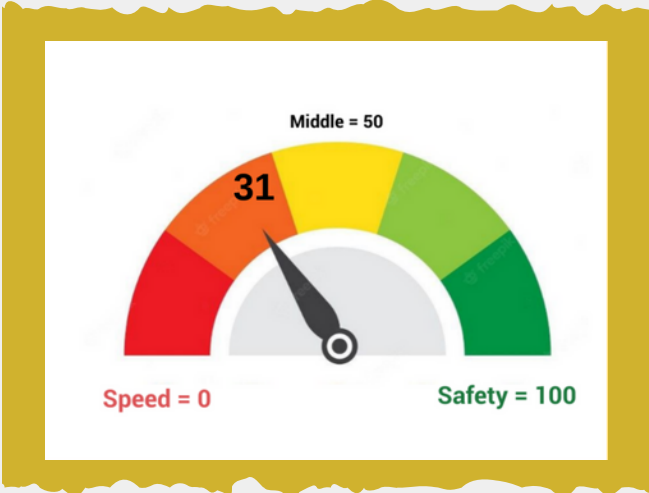
Swine Producer
Safety will be
Completed in 2023

Survey Data

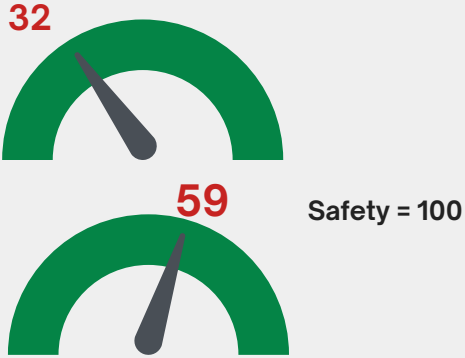
Why do Gear Up for Ag participants wear PPE?



Speed vs Safety



In the pre-survey, participants emphasized "speed" over "safety".



In the post-survey, participants emphasized "safety" over "speed". These response are likely biased by participation but it is great to see this shift!



Needles

61% report handling needles and pharmaceuticals for treatment of livestock



Pesticide Handling

71% reported handling pesticides and other agrochemicals



Health Care Provider

Only 1 in 10 reported ever having discussed agricultural safety and health issues with their pediatrician, family doctor, or other healthcare provider

New Outreach Tools

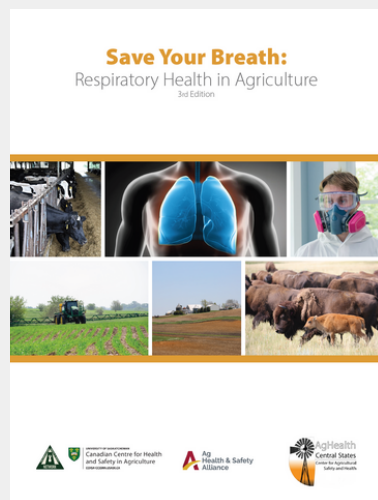
The Label is Your Guide



AHSA is partnering with **Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH)** to develop a Pesticides Handling Motion Graphic

The first video, "**The Label is Your Guide**" focuses on safe pesticide handling and proper interpretation of the pesticide label (for safe handling practices/proper use of PPE). **71% of our students reported handling pesticides** and other agrochemicals so this is an important resource for our Gear Up for Ag Programs and is applicable for anyone working with pesticides.

Save Your Breath - 3rd Edition



Respiratory health is important in the agricultural industry as exposure to hazards can be very high. **One-third of young adults working in agriculture in Gear Up for Ag™ programs have experienced cough, shortness of breath, or flu-like symptoms** after working in dusty environments.

This document was developed through a collaborative effort with the **Ag Health and Safety Alliance (AHSA)**, **Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA)**, and **Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS- CASH)**.

Respirator Fit Test Guide



Ag Health and Safety Alliance is partnering with the **Great Plains Center for Ag Health (GPCAH)** to modify the "Respirator Fit Test Capacity Building Guide" with an emphasis on **PESTICIDE** exposures and the use of respirators for those exposures.

This resource will include clickable links and QR codes to provide additional information, sample forms, and resources and will be an important part of Respirator Fit Testing with pesticide use and a valuable resource for the agricultural population. When completed, you will be able to find this resource on our **[Respiratory Resource tab](#)**.

One thing I Learned

When to wear a respirator
HOW TO PUT A MASK ON PROPERLY
How important it is to wear PPE
How to work safely
Safety is more important than speed
To think more about if what I'm doing is safe
How to be safer
What the most common respirators are for
The different types of respirators and use
Various kinds of PPE and the importance
The differences in PPE and how to use them properly
Biggest take-away is that we have to/could do a lot of things differently on the farm.

What is one thing you learned? What are you going to use a respirator for?

Better Safe Than Sorry.
EPE
There are more things to look out for than you think. When you are used to doing things a way you forget the hazards
Proper PPE usage
How to take OSE PPE correctly
A lot about the importance of safety gear and how it can impact daily work
The different mask ratings
more about PPE
I have a deeper understanding of PPE
how important safety measurements are.
AV storage of rolls
The importance of wearing PPE on the farm
Learned about the importance of ear plugs and when to wear it. (did not know they were that important)
The different types of respirators and use



Post it Note Activity
Qualitative information during Gear Up for Ag programs includes collecting all participant's "biggest takeaways" and "planned changes in behavior" related to content presented,

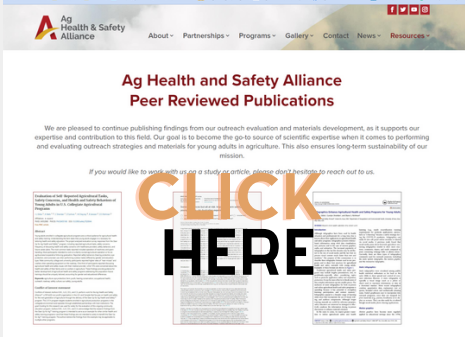


Publications

We are pleased to continue publishing findings from our outreach evaluation and materials development, as it supports our expertise and contribution to this field.

“In 2022-2023, our organization published 4 academic articles on topics such as quad bike safety and engineering controls, use of infographics in ag safety programs, and an article highlighting our Australian experiences.”

If you would like to work with us on a study or article, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.



If you would like to work with us on a study or article, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.



aghealthandsafety.com



Thank You Students, Colleges, Instructors, Sponsors, and Partners!

