



Servicios Legales para Los Trabajadores Agrícolas
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Farmworker Legal Services of New York, Inc.
OSHA Training Grant

Focus Group Discussion Questionnaire

Topics for consideration are: Noise, Slips and Falls, Muscular/Skeletal Injuries, Farm Equipment Safety, Chemical/Pesticide Exposure, and Heat Exposure/Exhaustion

Introduction

Farmworker Legal Services of New York (FLSNY) has received a Susan Harwood Training Grant through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This grant supports efforts to acquaint farm workers with the health hazards of their occupation, whether they are field workers, livestock workers, dairy workers, or those who work in packing sheds, greenhouses or other agricultural endeavors.

Input from individuals who work as farm worker advocates and agency personnel will provide a strong foundation of information from which FLSNY will be able to identify some of the key job health and safety issues that confront agricultural workers. Please take a few minutes to check off those areas listed below that are, in your informed opinion, workplace hazards in field and/or farm. In each case, please give an estimation of how often you've seen health consequences related to the condition. Project staff will talk further with you about how these conditions may impact worker safety and health

Please answer the following:

Program you are associated with: _____

County in which most of the clients you see come from: _____

Language associated with your clients: _____

Type of farming/farm work in which your clients engage
(such as fruit farming, apple farms, cabbage farms, etc.) _____

Your name (optional): _____ May we contact you? _____

If so, please provide your email address: _____

Or, phone number: _____

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Please think about the farm workers you see on a regular basis, and provide information about those farm workers’ health conditions. Please provide information for only those cases about which you have actual knowledge.

Check if Hazard Exists		# of cases or incidents
	Repetitive Motion (pulling, turning, squeezing, bending, stooping, etc.)	
	Weather Hazards (heat fatigue, skin cancer, dehydration, hypothermia, etc.)	
	Slips and/or falls	
	Toxic substances (pesticides, cleaning solutions, excrement, etc.)	
	Mechanization (equipment-related injuries)	
	Animal/Bug hazards (bites, kicks, Lyme Disease, etc.)	
	Violence (assault)	
	Emotional Stress (intimidation, coercion, harassment)	
	Other (please write in specific hazard)	

This grant project will provide appropriate training to farm workers. We would like your opinion on the best approaches to use with the farm workers you see that you believe would be most effective.

Please rank which approach(es) to training would generate the greatest participation from farm workers (#1 = highest participation, #4 = lowest). All would be provided in both English and Spanish.

- _____ Pre-recorded training available at workers’ education centers
- _____ on-site instructor at camps
- _____ on-site instructor at health centers
- _____ written material available at workers’ education centers and health centers

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Thinking about the injuries, illnesses or hazards, what factors do you believe contribute to the injury, illness or hazard?

Your opinion as to some contributing factors	Injury/Hazard	Examples of Contributing Factors to injury
	Repetitive Motion (pulling, turning, squeezing, bending, stooping, etc.)	Lack of correct tools, assistive devices, training in proper techniques
	Weather Hazards (heat fatigue, skin cancer, dehydration, hypothermia, etc.)	Absence of water supply, insufficient weather protection, no training
	Slips and/or falls	Inadequate equipment, haste, poor footwear, solitude
	Toxic substances (pesticides, cleaning solutions, excrement, etc.)	Ignorance about safe alternatives, poor ventilation, inadequate Personal Protective Equipment, poor or no training
	Mechanization (equipment-related injuries)	Faulty equipment, solitude, poor or no training
	Animal/Bug hazards (bites, kicks, Lyme Disease, etc.)	Inadequate PPE, inadequate first aid, poor or no training
	Violence (assault)	Fear of law enforcement, drug/alcohol abuse
	Emotional Stress (intimidation, coercion, harassment)	Language/Cultural isolation, fear of ICE
	Other (please write in specific hazard)	

What barriers do you believe will hinder the farm workers’ ability to successfully complete the training offered?

For example:

Limited English Proficiency (all material and training will be available in Spanish)

Work Schedule

Limited literacy skills

Transportation

Willingness to participate

Other barriers

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