



The NI IOSH Branch are honored to be a Farmsafe Affiliate, and pledge our support for the 2017 'Farm Safety Week'. We are unified in our efforts with affiliates, and other likeminded bodies to reduce ill health, injuries and death associated with health and safety risks on farms.

We supported HSENI at the very successful & recent Balmoral show, (May 2017) and were very encouraged to learn of the fantastic work completed by the Rural Support Group, including Free Health Checks for Farming Families supported by the Public Health Agency.

The branch also sponsored a more recent local farming event in Northern Ireland to promote safety with the use of PTOs on tractors. Going forward, as part of a varied programme of events & activities across a range of industrial sectors, the branch shall continue to sponsor the 'Farm Safe Calendar' and will once again attend and support the 2018 Balmoral Agriculture show.

Jackie O'Neill, Chair of the NI IOSH Branch stated "farmers and their families cannot live the lives of farmers without risk. It is inherent in their industry, that we must do what we can to mitigate such risks. Risk management is about education, in particular with younger (& older) farmers, including mothers and children. The focus should also be on the use of guards on PTOs, ensuring machine operatives are trained and competent, ensuring safe work at height practices - especially during planned and reactive maintenance activities, providing appropriately fenced off safe play zones for children, and having practical controls in place whilst mixing slurry".

HSENI continue to deliver a successful Farm Safety programme to school children. We need to do more, and encourage these types of varied learning opportunities to educate and mitigate risk. The NI IOSH Branch pledge to support such schemes.



*Some images from the Balmoral show and a local Farm event held in May 2017 with live demonstrations based around safe use of PTOs and Chainsaws.*



For further information on Farm Safety Week visit this link. <https://www.hseni.gov.uk/publications/farm-safety-week-2017-information-sheet>