



Tools and measures to identify knowledge, attitudes and perceptions on safety culture and risk management among farmers

Stephan Van den Broucke

Université catholique de Louvain, Psychological Sciences Research Institute, Belgium

Jose Rato Nunes

Escola Superior Agrária de Elvas, Portugal

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COST Association

Avenue Louise 149 I 1050 Brussels, Belgium t: +32 (0)2 533 3800 I f: +32 (0)2 533 3890 office@cost.eu I www.cost.eu

Health and safety in agriculture

- Agriculture has the worst fatal accident record of all major employment sectors
 - Over 550 fatal accidents in farming the EU each year
 - Fatal accident rate for the EU15 in 2000 was 12.6 /100 000 workers
 - Rate for accidents with more than 3 days absence is over 6000/100 000 workers
 - Relative share of fatality burden
 - UK: 15-20% of workforce fatalities for 1.5% of the workforce
 - Ireland: 50% of workforce fatalities for 5% of the workforce
- Higher than average rate of self-reported illness
 - musculoskeletal disorders
 - skin diseases
 - viral and bacterial infections
 - allergies, asthma and cancer
 - hearing impairment
 - mental problems (incl. burnout and suicide)

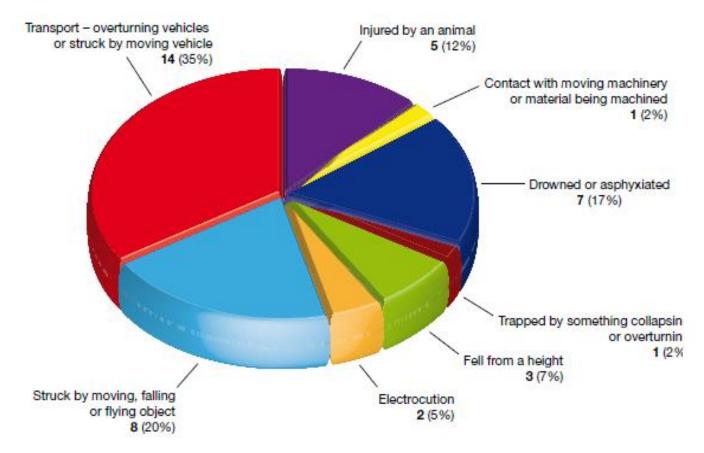




Behavioral risk factors

Causes of fatalities in agriculture

Fatal injuries in farming, forestry, horticulture and associated industries, UK, 2011-12



Ways to address health and safety problems

- Address the consequences
 - Rapid intervention to save lives
 - Adequate medical and psychological care
- Address the causes
 - Influence the behavioural and environmental determinants of health and safety problems through *prevention*
 - 3 "E"s of health and safety: Engineering, Enforcement and Education







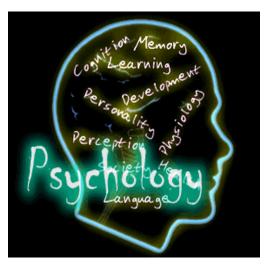
Building the evidence base for effective farm safety programmes



- 1. Identify behavioural risk factors
- Analyse the determinants of unsafe or unhealthy behaviour
- 3. Develop and test interventions to influence health related behavior
- 4. Investigate conditions for successful implementation and sustainability

Analyse the determinants of unsafe/unhealthy behaviour





Environmental factors

- Physical environment (facilities, barriers)
- Social environment (regulations, safety culture)

Psychological factors

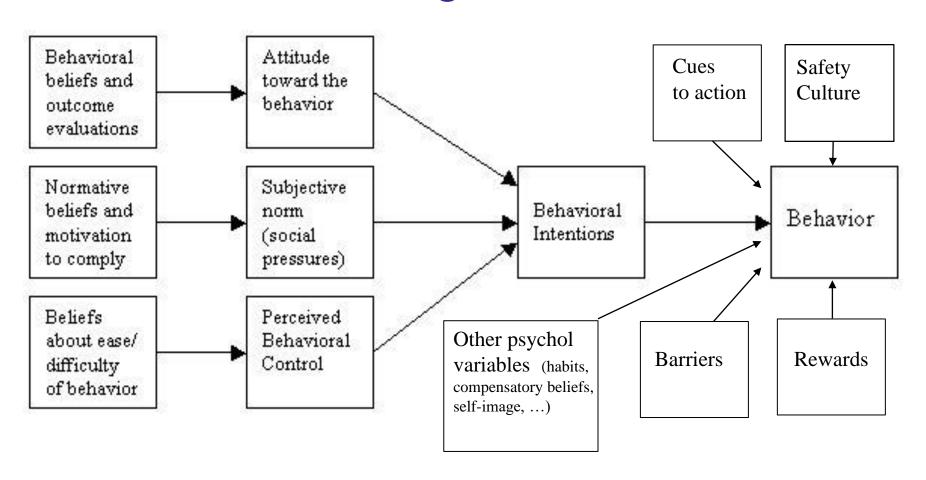
- Cognitive factors
 - lack of knowledge
 - low (health) literacy
 - information processing

 (e.g., inaccurate risk perceptions)

Motivation and attitudes

- subjective evaluation of advantages and disadvantages of behavioural options
- perceived norms and competence
- Stress

Extended motivational theory of factors influencing risk behavior



"Safety culture"

Definitions of safety culture

- "The way in which safety is managed in a workplace. It is the combination of beliefs, perceptions and attitudes of employees toward the safety of workers and the overall safety of the work environment. Cultivating a safety culture is a key aspect in maintaining workplace safety."
- "A positive safety culture is the culture of a workplace in which all the employees think of safety as an important thing and behave in a way that prioritizes their own safety as well as the safety of those around them. This includes using proper personal equipment, following the safety laws and just generally being conscious of safety and safe practices at all times."

Safeopedia (2018)

Characteristics of organisations with a positive safety culture

- communications founded on mutual trust
- shared perceptions of the importance of safety
- confidence in the efficacy of preventive measures



WG2 Sacurima COST Action

(Safety Culture and Risk Management in Agriculture)

- Understand the determinants of safety behavior in agriculture
 - Individual determinants (knowledge, attitudes, perceived risks, perceived norms, safety culture)
 - Contextual/environmental determinants (safety culture)
- Produce an innovative tool to measure
 - Knowledge, attitudes, perceived risks, norms and behaviors among farmers regarding safety, health and risk management and to measure safety culture on farms
 - Safety culture
- Measure determinants of safe behavior among farmers, and use it for benchmarking national performance

Survey of safety culture and risk behavior among European farmers

Objective

collect comparative data on the safety practices and its main determinants among agricultural workers in the countries that participate in COST Action SACURIMA

Method

- Self-report questionnaire study in 12 countries (B,HR,SF, D, GR, IRL, MK, P, RO, SRB, S, TR)
 - translated in each country's language(s) using forward backward translation
 - focus group to check the comprehensibility of the translated version
- Data collection (depending on the country)
 - face-to-face interviews (paper version)
 - telephone-based interviews
 - online survey
- Convenience sampling procedure
- Sample sizes varying between 13 (Romania) and 599 (Finland)



Survey Tool

- Background information (age, gender, type of farm, ...) (8 items)
- Injury history (3 items)
- Safety practices (falls prevention, machinery handling, pesticides and chemicals handling, animal handling) (17 items)
- Attitudes, norms perceived behavioral control, and intentions (35 items)
- Safety culture in the farmer community (5 items)
- Obstacles to safety behavior (tiredness, stress, workload, weather conditions, ...) (7 items)



23. I store chemicals and pesticides in a separate

24. I have an inventory of all pesticides on the farm

storage room

SACURIMA Survey Tool

	S an (S) (S)					
Part 2: Injury history	Part 4: Your and others' views with regard to safety behaviour					
9. Have you personally been involved in an accident on the farm you working in the last 10 years? □ No □ YesAccidents	Machines handling					
☐ No ☐ YesAccidents	40. Do you work with machines on your farm? 🛚 Yes					
10. Has anyone else been involved in an accident on the farm you work in the last 10 years?	☐ No (-> go to question 49)					
□ No □ YesAccidents	1 2 3 4 5					
11. Of all the accidents that have occurred on your farm, how severe was the most serious accident?	strongly disagree indifferent agree strongl disagree agree					
☐ Injury requiring 0-3 days off work ☐ Injury requiring 4 or more days off work ☐ Fatal injury	41. I find it important to read the manual carefully \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqq					
Part 3: Your safety practices	42. I find it dangerous to work with machinery without \(\Boxed{1} \) \(\Box					
For each of the following working practices, please tick the box that best represents your view:	43. Other farmers would disapprove if I would use					
1 2 3 4 5	machinery without proper protection or guarding					
Rarely Some- Most of Always times the time Falls prevention	44. Most farmers check if no one is standing in the way before they drive away					
12. I make sure the floors of my farm are always dry	45. I can decide for myself whether I take precautionary					
13. I clean dirty floors immediately	measures when working with machinery					
14. I store my tools carefully	46. Whether I maintain my machines well depends on UUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU					
15. When I have to carry a heavy load, I check in advance	47. I intend to read the manual before using a new machine \(\Boxed{1} \) \(
	48. I intend to take precautionary measures when working					
Machines handling	with machinery in the future					
16. Do you work with machines on your farm? ☐ Yes ☐ No (-> go to question 21)						
	Asimal banding					
1 2 3 4 5 Never Rarely Some- Most of Always	Animal handling					
17. Before I use a new machine, I read the manual carefully	49. Do you have animals on your farm?					
18. Before using tractors and machinery I check that they are						
in good working order (e.g., brakes, lights, PTOs, etc.)	1 2 3 4 5 strongly disagree indifferent agree strongl					
19. I work with machinery without a PTO or proper guarding	disagrée agree agree					
20. I wear safety gear when necessary	50. I find it important not to stand behind animals					
(e.g., goggles, ear defenders, high-vis jacket, etc.)	51. I find it obvious to approach aggressive animals					
	with caution 52. It is important to look for signals of restlessness in animals					
Chemicals and pesticides handling	53. Other farmers do not let themselves be entrapped					
21. Do you work with chemicals and/or pesticides on your farm?	by an animal					
☐ No (-> go to question 27)	54. Other farmers think that one should be extra careful					
1 2 3 4 5	with animals 55. I can decide myself whether or not I need to stand					
Never Rarely Some- Most of Always times the time	55. I can decide myself whether or not I need to stand U U U U U behind my animals					
22. I read the instructions through before I start working \Box \Box \Box \Box	56. It is impossible for me to ventilate my stables					
with chemicals or pesticides	57. I intend to approach animals with caution in the future					

58. I will try to keep my stables well ventilated



SACURIMA Survey Tool

Part 5: The safety norms in your farmer community

The following statements refer to the safety norms held by the community of farmers that you belong to or can refer to. For each of the following practices, please tick the box that best represents your view:

The farmers in my community	1 strongly disagree	2 disagree	3 indiffere	4 ent agree	5 strongly agree
The families at the community in					
70. Talk about safety issues					
71. Discusses with us how to improve safety					
72. Give higher priority to safety than to the on-time					
completion of tasks					
73. Invest in safety training for farmers and workers					
74. Use programs to improve farmer health and wellness					
(e.g., diet, exercise)					

Part 6: Obstacles to safety behavior

For each of the following issues, please indicate to what extent they may prevent you from behaving safely on your farm:

	1 no influence	2 small influence	3 some	4 strong influence	5 very strong influence
75. General tiredness					
76. Stress					
77. Unavailability of suitable tools or equipment					
78. Not enough time to prepare for the job					
79. Financial constraints					
80. Workload					
81. Weather conditions					



Participants characteristics and experience with accidents

Country	Number of re- spond- ents	Gender % M/F	Full- time farmer %	Farm owner %	Employ- ing oth- ers %	Person- ally in- volved in injury %	Others involved in injury %
Belgium	55	69/31	73	84	53	33	26
Croatia	202	57/43	63	32	10	16	19
Finland	599	59/41	81	91	22	47	35
Germany	107	88/19	77	85	39	29	42
Greece	36	89/11	58	81	58	42	19
Ireland	226	85/15	46	74	17	23	13
North Macedo- nia	47	77/23	53	79	49	34	17
Romania	16	63/37	75	63	44	13	0
Serbia	79	92/8	54	84	22	27	9
Sweden	26	62/38	54	73	54	35	31
Turkey	224	75/25	70	75	25	25	22
Portugal	27	89/11	63	85	74	4	30
Total	1,642	69/31	69	77	25	32	26

% of farmers involved in accident varies between 4% (Portugal) and 46.9% (Finland)



Seriousness of farm accidents

% dans country

severity of accident

		no accident	0-3 days	4+ days	fatal
country	Belgium	56,4%	7,3%	36,4%	
	Croatia	73,7%	15,7%	10,6%	
	Finland	39,4%	14,1%	46,4%	0,2%
	Germany	40,2%	19,6%	40,2%	
	Greece	61,3%	25,8%	12,9%	
	Ireland	70,8%	13,3%	14,6%	1,3%
	North Macedonia	58,7%	28,3%	13,0%	
	Portugal	66,7%	14,8%	18,5%	
	Romania	87,5%	6,3%	6,3%	
	Serbia	64,6%	22,8%	12,7%	
	Sweden	53,8%	19,2%	26,9%	
	Turkey	80,3%	10,1%	6,1%	3,5%
Total		57,1%	14,9%	27,3%	0,7%



Farm accidents by farm type

	% accident	В	Wald	OR	p
Personally involved in an accident with injury					
dairy farming	43.9%	0.616	28.529	1.852	<0.001
livestock	30.1%	-0.167	2.067	0.846	0.150
pigs or sheep farming	28.4%	-0.113	0.434	0.893	0.510
subsistence farming	31.8%	-0.167	0.808	0.860	0.369
commercial plantations	34.2%	0.176	1.226	1.192	0.268
horticulture	15.0%	-0.992	15.355	0.371	<0.001
commercial grain farming	25.3%	-0.380	53.285	0.488	<0.001
Others involved in an accident with injury					
dairy farming	39.3%	0.951	60.970	2.587	<0.001
livestock	25.1%	-0.030	0.058	0.970	0.810
pigs or sheep farming	31.3%	0.448	6.702	1.565	0.010
subsistence farming	21.5%	-0.542	7.729	0.582	0.005
commercial plantations	28.3%	0.277	2.650	1.319	0.104
horticulture	20.3%	-0.140	0.371	0.870	0.542
commercial grain farming	21.7%	-0.229	2.757	0.796	0.097

Dairy farming most likely to cause personal accident, horticulture least likely



Farm accidents by sociodemograpic characteristics

	% accident	В	Wald	OR	р
Age group <35 35-49 50-65 >65	26.4% 32.5% 36.3% 26.9%	,057	,430	1,058	,512
Gender Male Female	32.2% 34.2%	-,078	,267	,925	,606
Education level None Primary Secondary Higher Postgraduate	12.5% 24.3% 28.9% 35.3% 33.3%	-,034	,111	,967	,739
Agricultural training None 1-5 years 5-10 years >10 years	26.4% 27.3% 40.1% 47.8%	,371	34,115	1,449	,000
Farm ownership No Yes	29.8% 36.3%	,299	2,462	1,348	,117
Employing others on farm No Yes	15.2% 42.3%	,422	8,433	1,526	,004



Farm accidents and safe behaviour

	INJ	INJURY		NO INJURY			DISCRIMI-
	М	SD	М	SD	F	P	NANT FUNC- TION
Fall pre- vention	3.78	0.727	3.99	0.722	30.174	<0.001	0.847
Machine handling	3.77	0.797	3.81	0.823	1.100	0.294	0.229
Chemicals and pesti- cides han- dling	4.13	0.804	4.27	0.690	8.836	0.003	0.605
Animal handling	4.25	0.664	4.22	0.715	0.526	0.468	-0.024



Determinants of safe farmer behaviour

	R ² adjusted	β	t	р
Fall prevention				
Intention	0.291			
Attitude		0.269	12.961	< 0.001
Subjective norm		0.263	11.667	< 0.001
Perceived behavioural control		0.184	8.316	< 0.001
Behaviour	0.173			
Intention		0.310	12.133	< 0.001
Safety climate		0.165	6.913	< 0.001
Personal obstacles		-0.112	-4.520	< 0.001
External obstacles		0.100	3.976	< 0.001
Perceived behavioural control		-0.021	-0.877	0.381
Machine handling				
Intention	0.428			
Attitude		0.585	26.584	< 0.001
Subjective norm		0.153	6.936	< 0.001
Perceived behavioural control		0.000	0.015	0.988
Behaviour	0.207			
Intention		0.388	15.114	< 0.001
Safety climate		0.142	5.565	< 0.001
Personal obstacles		0.049	1.770	0.077
External obstacles		-0.090	-3.242	0.001
Perceived behavioural control		0.095	3.694	0.381



Determinants of safe farmer behaviour

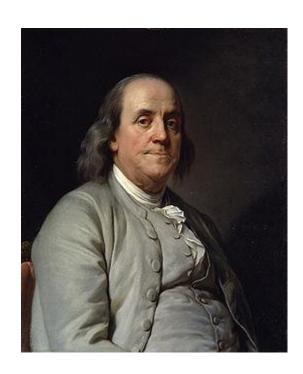
	R ² adjusted	β	t	p
Chemicals and pesticides handling				
Intention	0.189			
Attitude		0.244	8.483	< 0.001
Subjective norm		0.153	5.415	< 0.001
Perceived behavioural control		0.197	7.010	< 0.001
Behaviour	0.202			
Intention		0.225	7.764	< 0.001
Safety climate		0.314	11.199	< 0.001
Personal obstacles		0.085	2.793	0.005
External obstacles		-0,012	-0.406	0.685
Perceived behavioural control		0.082	2815	0.005
Animal handling				
Intention	0.253			
Attitude		0.314	12,687	< 0.001
Subjective norm		0.238	8,833	<0.,001
Perceived behavioural control		0.134	4,932	< 0.001
Behaviour	0.130			
Intention		0.191	6.282	< 0.001
Safety climate		0.161	5.507	< 0.001
Personal obstacles		0.238	7.,800	< 0.001
External obstacles		-0.267	-8.541	< 0.001
Perceived behavioural control		-0.070	-2.340	0,019

Conclusions

- Farming is a hazardous and increasingly stressful occupation
- The specificity of agriculture and the risks facing farmers and their families are often missed or neglected in general health and safety
- Farm safety campaigns should be based on a sound understanding of the risk or health-damaging behaviour
 - documented impact of specific behavioural factors
 - importance of the determinants of risk behaviour using psychological models
- An extended version of the Theory of Planned Behaviour applied to farmer safety behaviour shows that safe behavior is influenced by
 - the intention to behave in a safe way, determined by attitudes, perceived social norms and perceived control of the behaviour
 - safety climate of the farmer community
 - perceived personal and external obstacles
- The questionnaire developed in the context of SACURIMA WG2 can be used to measure the determinants of farmers' safety behaviour

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"

- Benjamin Franklin



stephan.vandenbroucke@uclouvain.be