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**THE MAIN CAUSES OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN THE
WORKPLACE OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS**

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Agriculture involves a wide range of different types of machinery, animals, plants and products, working in both indoor and outdoor environments under widely varying geographic and climatic conditions. While agricultural enterprises in many developed countries are highly mechanized and operate on a large scale, in many developing countries labour-intensive farming is much more common.

High levels of occupational risk in agriculture are manifested in a large number of injuries of varying degrees of gravity, which occur annually in agrarian production. Compared with other sectors of the economy of Ukraine, agriculture now lags behind the number of annual traumas (ordinary and fatal) for the coal industry alone. The severity of occupational injuries in the agro-industrial complex increases annually. The most traumatic occupations in the village include the profession of machine operator (tractor engineer), driver, and animal breeder.

The main sources of fatal trauma in crop production are mobile machinery (about 70%), the main danger is wheel tractors, grain harvesters and self-propelled combines and trucks. About a third of all accidents occur during the execution of mechanized processes due to false actions of employees, in particular due to their low professional suitability and inadequate qualifications.

The most significant industrial hazards that lead to the trauma of agricultural workers include: violation of the rules of the road - 13,3%; lack of knowledge of safe working methods by workers - 9.9%; alcohol, narcotic intoxication, toxic poisoning - 8.9%; violation of labour and industrial discipline - 8.7%; unsatisfactory technical condition of means of production - 7.3%; violation of safety requirements during operation of equipment, machines, mechanisms, etc. - 5,1%; unsatisfactory technical condition of vehicles - 4.9%; structural deficiencies, imperfections and insufficient reliability of means of production - 4,6%. These values may change somewhat from year to year, but their ratio remains practically stable.

The introduction of measures to educate workers on safe working practices will help reduce occupational agricultural injuries in the workplace.

References

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