

Quick safety scan: Background

The traffic light scan is designed to be done in 30 minutes by any member of the farm team. It can be used initially to set up the farm safety system and then on an ongoing basis to review the system. It is recommended that Quick safety scans are re-done at least once per year.

How to use a Quick safety scan

1. Use the one page Quick safety scan sheet and allocate a staff member to undertake the scan.
2. Instruct the staff member to take 30 minutes to:
 - a. Answer the questions on the scan sheet
 - b. If a hazard is seen, take a photo if appropriate
 - c. Show the completed sheet and photos to the Farm Manager and discuss the hazards and possible solutions
3. Follow up (by the Farm Manager):
 - d. Transfer the hazards to the Action plan and describe the solution
 - e. Organise the actions to be taken

The Farm Safety Manual provides information and templates to assist you to comply with legal requirements and build a positive safety culture in hazard areas. For more information, visit www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/farmsafetymanual

Manual handling

Quick safety scan

Making life easier and more productive involves thinking about the many dairy farming tasks that involve lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling, carrying, holding or restraining things or animals. These tasks have the potential to be hazardous if they involve postures that are awkward or sustained, forces that are high, sudden or repeated, movements that are repetitive, or exposure to vibration. Hazardous tasks can lead to back injuries, sprains and strains, joint and bone injuries or degeneration, nerve injuries or compression, hernias and chronic pain. Health and quality of life improve when manual handling hazards are controlled.

Quick safety scan – Start here	No	Some	Yes	Comments
1. Are mechanical aids (e.g. hand trolleys, front-end loader, fork lift, hoists) used for moving and lifting heavy or awkward objects?				
2. Are there arrangements in place to minimise the need to handle buckets that hold over 15 litres?				
3. Is bulk handling used to minimise the amount of manual handling on the farm?				
4. Is the platform height or pit depth right for milkers at cups on and cups off positions to minimise bending, reaching or stretching?				
5. Are clusters mounted between hip and shoulder level?				
6. Do gates move freely without lifting and dragging?				
7. Is basic instruction provided in manual handling, including use of aids, balancing loads, getting assistance, adjusting and setting up work areas and managing your body?				
8. Are workers consulted about any discomfort they experience after doing tasks?				

Person doing Quick safety scan:	Date: / /
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