

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

Farm chemicals

Quick safety scan

Chemicals are used on dairy farms for cleaning, pest control, animal treatments, feed additives, fertilisers and as fuels. They are important management tools but many also have the potential to cause harm to human health and safety. Health effects include headaches, nausea or vomiting, asthma, dermatitis, nerve damage and cancer. Chemicals that are flammable, corrosive, explosive, chemically reactive or oxidising may also harm workers with more immediate effects such as burns.

There are clear guidelines available for transport, storage, use and disposal of every hazardous chemical and WHS law sets out your obligations in management of them.

Quick safety scan – Start here	No	Some	Yes	Comments
1. Have all hazardous chemicals been identified on the farm and a register established?				
2. Are all chemicals used on the farm stored securely and spills contained?				
3. Are there current Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) available for all hazardous chemicals and fuels stored on the farm?				
4. Are all chemicals transported, stored, labelled, used and disposed of as per their SDS and regulations?				
5. Are chemicals that require refrigeration stored separately from food and drink?				
6. Have chemical users undergone relevant training and instruction?				
7. Is the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) recommended by the SDS available and used?				
8. Is there a functioning emergency deluge shower and eye wash station?				
9. Are tractors that are used for spray application fitted with a cabin and charcoal air filter?				
10. Have you had an asbestos audit and management plan prepared?				

Person doing Quick safety scan:	Date: / /
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