Introduction to Farm Safety

To assist agricultural proprietors and workers in their efforts to avoid accidental loss, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System has developed a Farm Safety Management Plan.

Types of accidental losses include:

• Physical harm to people and farm animals
• Damage to machinery, buildings, and equipment
• Degradation of products being produced
• Untimely interruption of processes
• Degradation of the local and gross environment

Many situations on a farm can cause liability losses, including the following.

• Children may be tempted to climb on equipment left in fields near the road and could get hurt. Farm proprietors have been sued successfully for leaving equipment in such an inviting place.
• Unmarked or ungraded holes in the ground that are part of a construction project may result in a liability loss if a third party falls into one of these.
• Mail boxes too close to the roadway could cause accidents.

When planning for overall safety, consider the effects of all types of liability potential and not only harm to people.