

Work environment – Horticulture safety package

General >

This bulletin outlines some simple safety guidelines for those working in the horticultural industry and is one of a series on Horticultural Industry Safety.

Special care with seasonal and labour hire workers

Many seasonal labour hire workers may not be experienced or familiar with workplaces, their operation or the possible dangers associated with the work.

It is essential that all workers be given a thorough induction session prior to commencing work.

They should be assigned to tasks that they understand and are capable of performing in an efficient and safe manner.

Owner / manager / supervisor

- Is responsible for the effective implementation of OH&S procedures.
- Must fulfil their responsibilities under the relevant Acts and Regulations.
- Ensure that the agreed procedures for regular discussions between the owner / manager, supervisor and employees are followed.
- Make regular workplace inspections to identify potential hazards or risks to health and safety within the workplace and take reasonable steps to resolve them.
- Provide information, training and supervision for all employees in the correct use of plant, equipment, chemicals and other substances used.
- Should seek and encourage a co-operative involvement approach from all employees in realising their health and safety objectives and creating a safe work environment
- Ensure that employees clothing is appropriate for safe work in hot conditions

Employees

- Take appropriate care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions or omissions at work.
- Should comply with safety procedures and as far as practicable follow all reasonable directions given to them by their employer or their representative.
- Must not wilfully or recklessly interfere with or misuse items or facilities provided in the interest of health and safety.
- Must inform their employer, manager or supervisor of potential hazards, risks to health and safety, accidents and near-miss incidents in the workplace within an appropriate timeframe.

Common hazards

WorkSafe has identified a number of hazards that are responsible for the highest number of injuries and diseases in the workplace. These are covered in various sections of the package.

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