



Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Media Release

March 9, 2011

Nova Scotia farmers taking part in Plan ~ Farm ~ Safety campaign

2011 marks the second year of a three-year Canadian Agriculture Safety campaign, “*Plan • Farm • Safety*”. The focus this year highlights on implementation, documentation and training of safety practices on the farm. March 13-19th is designated as Canadian Agriculture Safety Week (CASW) and will be officially launched here in Nova Scotia this Friday. Although safety needs to be a part of everyday life, this week serves as a reminder to put safety top of mind.

"This agricultural safety campaign brings attention to the importance of having safe work procedures in place to manage risks and control hazards to protect the welfare of farm workers who are usually family members," said Agriculture Minister John MacDonell. "We need to ensure a safe work environment for everyone working in the agriculture industry, which contributes significantly to rural communities by creating good jobs and growing the economy."

"Farmers strive to provide a safe work place for our employees, ourselves and our families," said Beth Densmore, president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (NSFA). "As we prepare for the upcoming planting season, the proclamation of Agricultural Safety Week is a very important reminder to include safe work habits in our daily practices."

As a part of the Federation's commitment to farm safety, the Society of Farm Safety Nova Scotia was formed in 2010 and will be launching a Farm Health & Safety Manual for Nova Scotia farmers in conjunction with this year's national safety week. "The manual will provide a step by step guide to help farmers comply with Occupational Health and Safety standards and practice safety on our farms," says Ralph Baxter, NSFA Safety Consultant.

Please join us for the official launch of Canadian Agriculture Safety Week this Friday, March 11, 2011 at the Riverview Room, NSAC Campus, Truro, N.S. starting at 10:00. www.nsfa-fane.ca/CASW for more details.

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The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture represents the interests of over 2400 farm families in Nova Scotia. Founded in 1895 to provide Nova Scotia's farm community with a single voice, the NSFA is the province's only general farm organization.