

## Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 – March 31, 2017

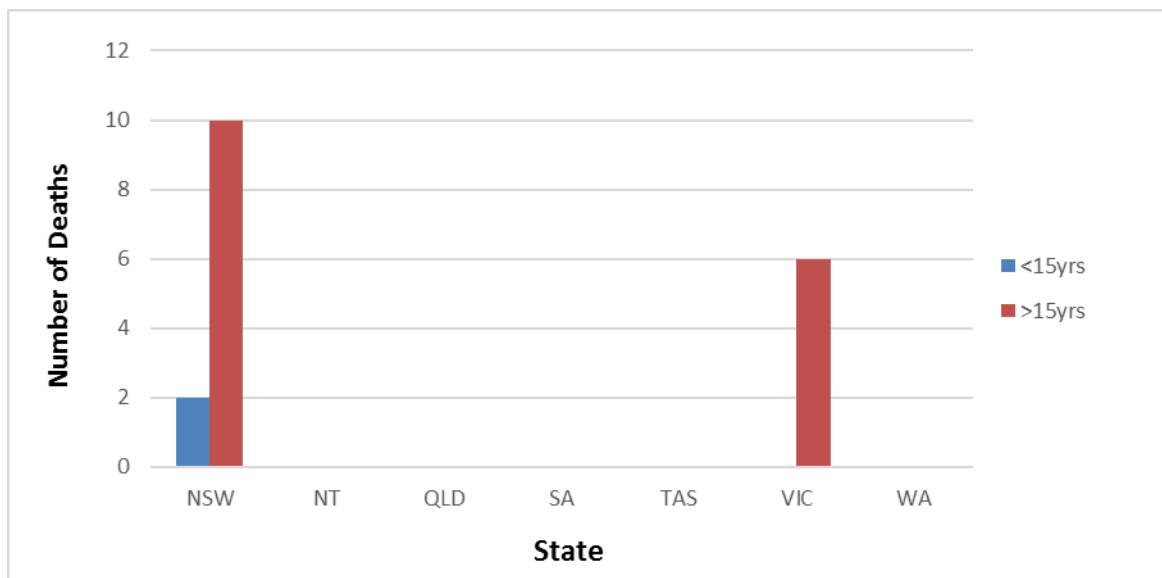
### Background

Australian print and online media provides an avenue to highlight the prevalence of farm related deaths and injuries. The process of media monitoring has been used by the National Farm Injury Data Centre (NFIDC) since 2005 to assist in the collection of information on farm injury events (fatal and non-fatal). This report focuses predominantly on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print and online media for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

### Deaths

There were approximately 10,247 print and media articles received by the NFIDC from Meltwater during the period. A total of 18 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=18) is slightly lower than the corresponding period in 2016 (n=20).
- Two of the 18 deaths involved a child aged under 15 years.
- Quads (n=6), tractors (n=3) and water storage (n=3) were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad related fatality. There was one additional fatal injury event that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 7 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).



**Figure 1:** On-farm deaths reported in Australian media by age and state, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2017.

**Table 1:** Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian media by age, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2016 and 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2017.

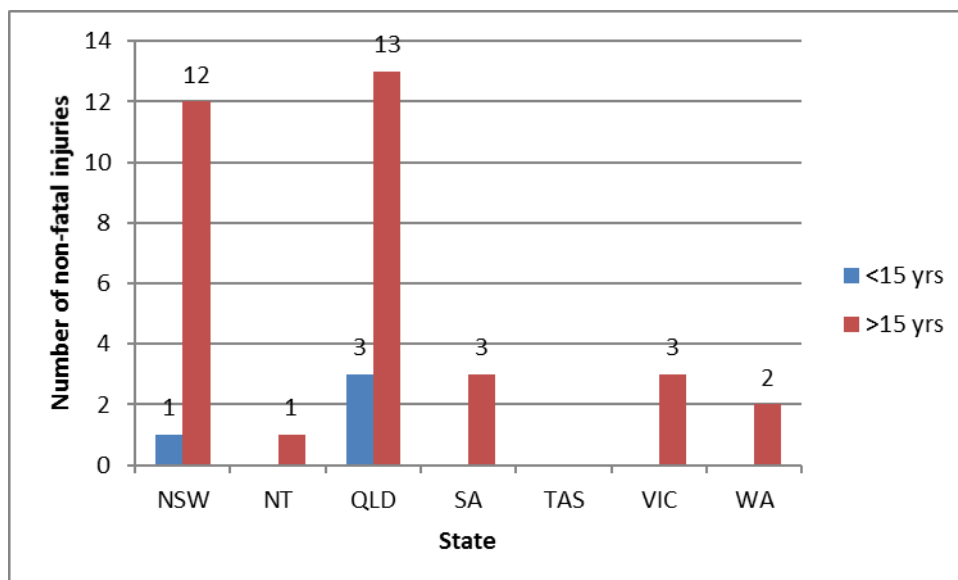
Category	Agent	2016			2017		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle						
	Horse						
Farm Structure	Dam		1	1			
	Irrigation Channel	1		1			
	Piggery	1		1			
	Powerline		1	1			
	Pump		1	1			
	Roof/Shed/Water Tank		1	1		3	3
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft						
	Farm Vehicle NEC*						
	Helicopter		1	1			
	Motorbike						
	Quad		2	2	2	4	6
	Side By Side Vehicle						
	Truck					1	1
	Trailer						
	Utility						
Materials	Rope					1	1
	Materials NEC		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery / Plant	Forklift	1		1			
	Tractor		2	2		3	3
	Mobile Farm Machinery / Plant NEC *		1	1		1	1
Other	Burns		1	1			
	Firearm		1	1			
Working Environment	Fire/smoke/flame					2	2
	Lightning/storm					1	1
	Trees being fell		2	2			
Workshop Equipment	Grinder NEC		1	1			
	Ladder		1	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

### Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 38 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian media for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

- Four (10.5%) of the 38 injury events involved children aged under 15 years.
- Quad related injury (n=13) accounted for over 30% of all incidents. This was followed by cattle related incidents (n=4) and horse related incidents (n=4).
- For quads, there were eight additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 21 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).



**Figure 2:** On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2017.

**Table 2:** Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2017.

Category	Agent	2017		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		4	4
	Horse	1	3	4
Materials	Hay Bale		2	2
Farm Structure	Shed/roof/water tank		1	1
	Powerline		1	1
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft		1	1
	Motorbike	1	1	2
	Quad	2	11	13
	Side By Side Vehicle			
	Utility		2	2
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1
	Harvesting Machine		1	1
	Tractor		3	3
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		2	2
Working Environment	Tree		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified