

## NSW Raises the Bar on Farm Safety

The announcement by SafeWork NSW that rebates will soon be available to improve quad safety is a welcome development for farmers in NSW. “Quads have been the leading cause of on-farm fatalities across Australia for the past five years” said Dr Tony Lower Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety.

“In years gone by the NSW tractor rebate program that supported the fitting of rollover protection structures was amazingly successful in reducing deaths and has also been replicated in other countries” stated Lower. “We see no reason why this rebate as part of the larger quad safety initiative, cannot have a similarly positive impact in NSW.”

“The rebate encourages primary producers to move to other safer and more fit-for purpose vehicles such as side by sides and if that’s not possible, then to fit a Crush Protection Device on their quad. These elements are also supported by resources for training and purchase of helmets.”

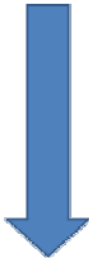
The potential for farmers across NSW to benefit from this rebate and to improve safety for themselves, their workers and families is significant.

“Undoubtedly, the rebate will fast-track action to limit these needless injuries and deaths.”

Further information and guidance on quad and side-by-side vehicle safety, is available from the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety <http://www.aghealth.org.au/> or call 02 6752 8210 for further information.

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<p>Most Effective</p>  <p>Least Effective</p>	<p>Elimination - don't use the quad bike for the farm task</p> <p>Substitution - use a more stable machine such as a tractor, farm ute or side-by side vehicle</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">...if still deciding to use a quad bike</p> <p>Engineering Control - fit a tested crush protective device</p> <p>Administrative Controls - ensure training, induction and rider supervision (strictly no passengers of any age, no loads/spray tanks and no children under 16 riding quads of any size)</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment - wear an approved helmet</p>
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