

## Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - December 31, 2015

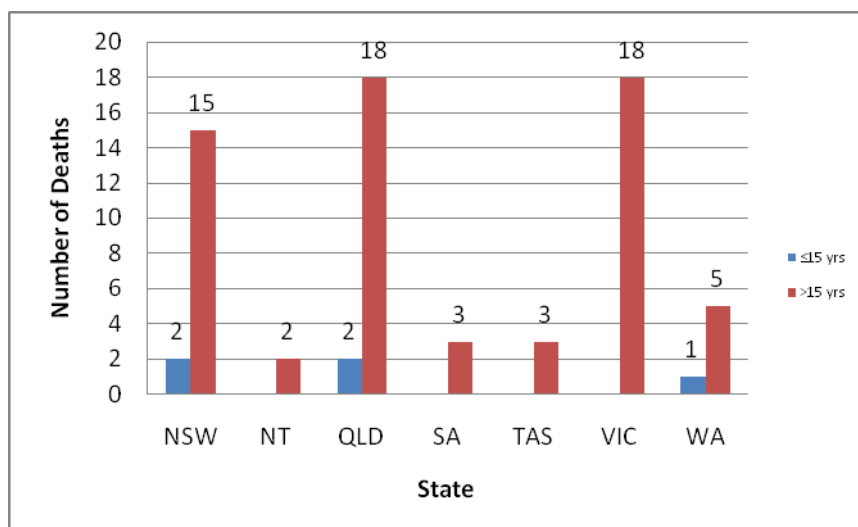
### Background

Australian print 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 media for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2015. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

### Deaths

There were approximately 1,900 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA during the period. A total of 69 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=69) is higher than the corresponding period in 2014 (n=54).
- Six (8.7%) of the 69 deaths involved a child aged 15 years and under.
- Quads (n=15), tractors (n=13) and mobile-plant/machinery (n=7) were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad related fatality. There were seven additional fatal injury events that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 22 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).



**Figure 1:** On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2015).

**Table 1:** Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian print media by age, 2014 and 2015.

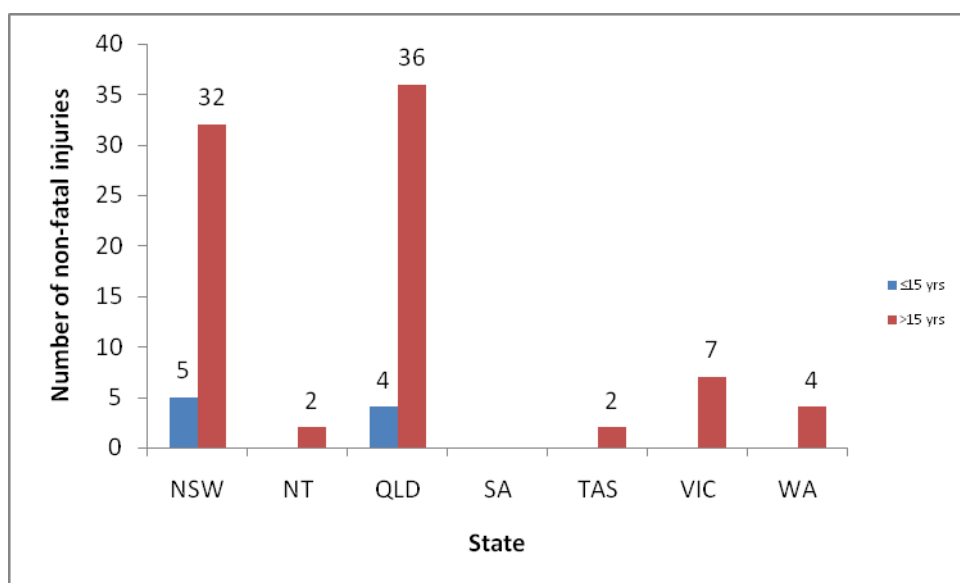
Category	Agent	2014			2015		
		<15yrs	>15yrs	Total	<15yrs	>15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle					1	1
	Horse		1	1		1	1
Electricity	Powerlines		1	1			
Farm Structure	Dam	2		2	1		1
	Roof/Shed door/Water tank		2	2		2	2
	Cattle dip (drowned)	1		1			
	Well					1	1
	Silo		1	1			
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft		1	1		4	4
	Helicopter		2	2		3	3
	Motorcycle		2	2		3	3
	Quad	3	9	12	2	13	15
	Side By Side Vehicle		1	1		1	1
	Truck/4WD		3	3		2	2
	Trailer					3	3
	Utility		5	5		2	2
	Materials Other NEC*/Unknown		2	2		1	1
	Tractor		10	10	1	12	13
	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Forklift	1	1	2	1	2	3
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		4	4	1	6	7
	Firearm						
	Trees being felled		1	1		4	4
Other	Fire					1	1
	Lightning					1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>69</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

### Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 92 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2015.

- Nine (9.8%) of the 92 injury events involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad related injury (n=41) accounted for 44.6% of all incidents. This was followed by mobile plant /machinery related incidents (n=10).
- For quads, there were twenty nine additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 70 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 (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2015).

**Table 2:** Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2015).

Category	Agent	2015		
		≤15yrs	>15yrs	Total
Animal	Horse		5	5
	Cattle		7	7
Electricity	Powerlines			
Farm Chemicals	Fuel			
	Pesticides			
Farm Vehicle	Farm Vehicle NEC*		1	1
	Helicopter			
	Motorcycle	1	5	6
	Quad	5	36	41
	Side By Side Vehicle		1	1
	Truck			
	Utility	2		2
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*	1	9	10
	Tractor		8	8
	Hay baler		1	1
Materials Other	Materials Other NEC		2	2
Other	Harvest machinery		1	1
	Firearm		2	2
	Lightning		1	1
	Snake		2	2
	Bee		1	1
Environment	Trees being felled		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>92</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified