

## Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - March 31, 2014

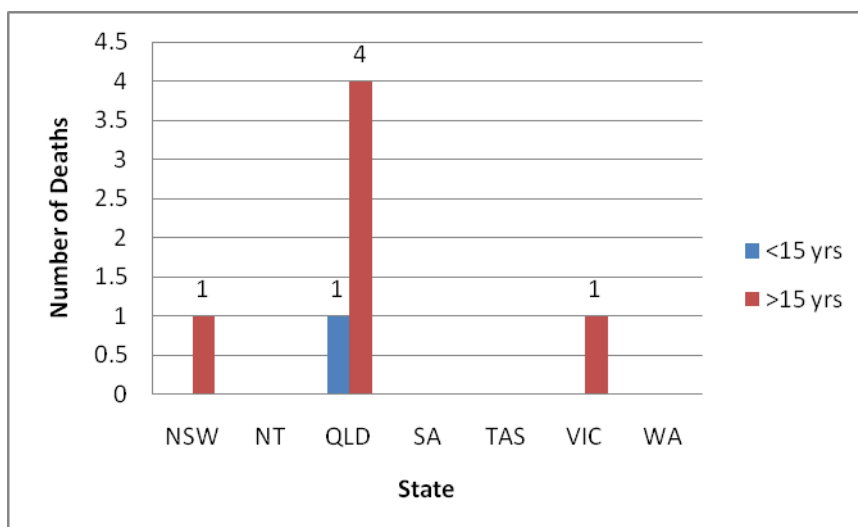
### Background

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 March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. It also captures non-farm quad bike related fatality and injury over the same period.

### Deaths

There were approximately 381 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA during the period. A total of seven on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal cases (n=7) was less than half that for the corresponding period in 2013 (n=15).
- One (14%) of the seven deaths involved a child aged 15 years and under.
- Quads (n=3) were reported most frequently, with all other agents having only single incidents - tractor, earth moving equipment, fall from farm structure and tree felling.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad bike related fatality. There was one additional fatal injury event that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 4 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-March 2014.

**Table 1:** Agents of injury causing death as reported in Australian print media by age, Jan-March 2013 and Jan-March 2014.

Category	Agent	2013			2014		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Farm Vehicle	Utility	1		1			
	Quad		2	2	1	2	3
	Motorcycle						
	Side By Side Vehicle						
	Truck						
	Trailer		1	1			
	Farm Vehicle NEC*		1	1			
Materials	Materials Other NEC*						
Electricity	Powerlines		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Tractor		3	3		1	1
	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1		1	1
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		1	1			
Farm Structure	Dam	1		1			
	Windmill		1	1			
	Farm Structure NEC					1	1
	Cattle						
Animal	Horse		1	1			
Working Environment	Trees being felled					1	1
Other	Firearm		1	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

### **Non-fatal Injury**

There were an additional 18 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.

- Two (11%) of the 18 injury events involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad related injury (n=6) accounted for 33% of all incidents. This was followed by motorcycle related incidents (n=2).
- For quads, there were seven additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 13 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases).



**Figure 2:** On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, Jan-March 2014.

**Table 2:** Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, Jan-Mar 2014.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>&lt;15yrs</b>	<b>&gt;15yrs</b>	<b>Total</b>
Farm Vehicle	Quad	0	6	6
	Motorcycle	1	1	2
	Helicopter	0	1	1
	Truck	0	1	1
	Farm Vehicle NEC*	1	0	1
Farm Chemicals	Pesticides	0	1	1
	Fuel	0	1	1
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC	0	1	1
Animal	Cattle	0	1	1
Other	Firearm	0	1	1
	Snake	0	1	1
	Lightning		1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified