

Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - March 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 1st to March 31st 2015. It also captures non-farm quad bike related fatality and injury over the same period.

Deaths

There were approximately 148 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA during the period. A total of 11 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal cases (n=11) was higher than that for the corresponding period in 2014 (n=7).
- Three (27%) of the 11 deaths involved a child aged 15 years and under.
- Quads (n=4) and tractors (n=3), were reported most frequently.
- 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 five quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).

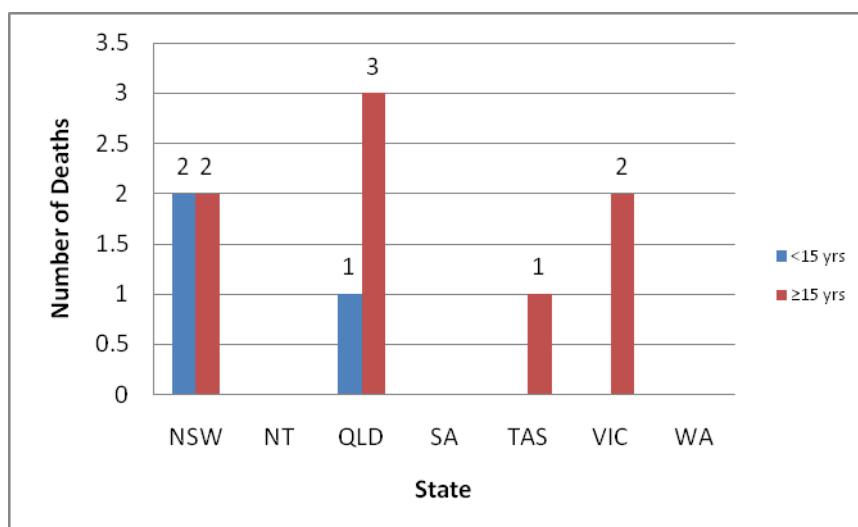


Figure 1: On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state, Jan-March 2015.

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

Category	Agent	2014			2015		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle						
	Horse						
Electricity	Lightning					1	1
Farm Structure	Dam				1		1
	Roof						
	Farm Structure NEC		1	1			
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft					1	1
	Farm Vehicle NEC*						
	Helicopter						
	Motorcycle						
	Quad	1	2	3	1	3	4
	Side By Side Vehicle						
	Trailer						
	Truck						
	Utility						
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Forklift					1	1
	Tractor		1	1	1	2	3
	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1			
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*						
Other	Firearm						
Working Environment	Trees being felled		1	1			
TOTAL		1	6	7	3	8	11

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 29 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1st to March 31st 2015.

- Two (7%) of the 29 injury events involved children aged 15 years and under.
- Quad related injury (n=11) accounted for 38% of all incidents. This was followed by cattle (n=3) and horse (n=3) related incidents.
- For quads, there were 8 additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 19 quad related non-fatal injuries notified nationally including farm and non-farm cases).

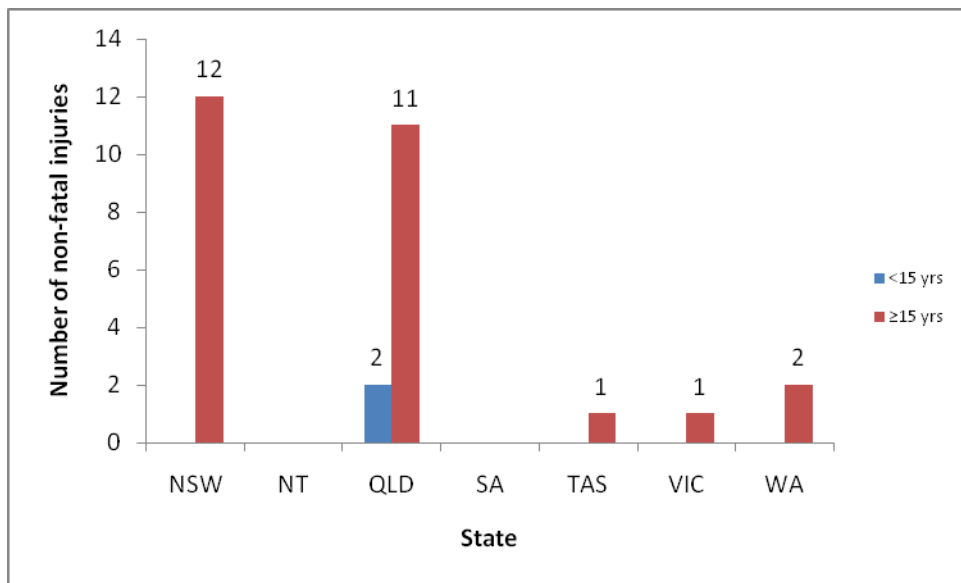


Figure 2: On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, January - March 2015.

Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, Jan - March 2014 and Jan - March 2015.

Category	Agent	2014			2015		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		1	1		3	3
	Horse					3	3
	Snake		1	1		1	1
	Bees					1	1
Farm Chemicals	Pesticides		1	1			
	Fuel		1	1			
Farm Structure	Dam						
	Roof						
	Farm Structure NEC						
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft						
	Farm Vehicle NEC*	1		1		1	1
	Helicopter		1	1			
	Motorcycle	1	1	2		1	1
	Quad		6	6	1	10	11
	Side By Side Vehicle						
	Trailer						
	Truck		1	1			
	Utility				1		1
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Forklift						
	Tractor					2	2
	Hay baler					1	1
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		1	1		1	1
Other	Firearm		1	1		2	2
Working Environment	Lightning		1	1			
	Trees being felled					1	1
TOTAL		2	16	18	2	27	29

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified