**Open Farm Sunday**

**Generic risk assessment for farm visits and open days**

This risk assessment is designed to help farmers assess their premises in relation to farm visits and for Open Farm Sunday. You must make sure you cover all the significant risks on your premises even if they do not appear on this generic risk assessment. This form should not be used for other purposes, nor should it be used to assess the farm as a workplace. Employers with more than five employees must have a written Health and Safety Policy Statement and must record significant findings of their risk assessment. This document can be downloaded as a word document at www.farmsunday.org/open-my-farm.

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| Farm name: | Telephone: |
| Address where visit will take place:  Post code: | Mobile: |
| Email: |
| Website: |
| Grid Reference: |
| Date of Risk Assessment: | Time of Risk Assessment: |
| Carried out by: | Signature: |

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| **Checklist:**   * Sufficient access for visitors’ vehicles (cars, coaches etc) with one-way system or turning area * Areas out of bounds marked off * Handwashing and boot washing point provided, and signposted * Fire equipment and first aid equipment easily accessible * There will be a trained first-aider on site during the visit/open day * Clear contingency plans are in place in the event of an emergency, or unsafe behaviour amongst visitors * Insurer has been informed and farm has adequate public liability cover |

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| **Summary** *(to be completed after the assessment)* | | | |
| Is more information required? | Yes/No | More HSE guidance notes are available at http://www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/index.htm | |
| Authorised by:  *(Signature) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .*  Print name: | | Acceptable: (for all beneficiary groups?) | Yes/No |
| Further action required: | Yes/No |
| Further action required: | | | |

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| **What are the hazards?** | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What are you already doing?** | **What further action is necessary?**  ***Suggestions below*** | **Action by whom?** | **Action by when?** | **Done** |
| Car park – moving vehicles | Visitors – physical injuries - falls from getting in and out of cars, mini-bus or coach. Visitors struck by vehicles. |  | Supervision of car park. One-way systems. Maintain surface of parking area e.g. avoid pot holes. Parking area for mini-bus/coaches. |  |  |  |
| Public access/roads vehicle movements | Visitors entering farm on foot; passing from one part of farm to another struck by vehicles |  | Barriers. Signs on road to alert traffic. Super- vision of farm entrance. Divert route to avoid hazard. Provide safe transport e.g. tractor & trailer segregate vehicles & pedestrians. |  |  |  |
| Lost or disorientated visitors | All visitors - wander into unsafe areas |  | Good supervision of visitors around clearly defined routes. Lock unsafe area or put barriers across with signage. Ensure visitors know what to do if they get separated from their group. |  |  |  |
| Trailer rides | Visitors on a tractor and trailer ride – physical injuries: falling; being crushed or run over |  | Suitable trailer *(See HSE agricultural information sheet AIS 36; requirements for on road use of trailers carrying passengers are more onerous and further advice should be sought))* Trained and competent driver. Tractor/trailer maintained. Supervision. Safe steps & handrail to access trailer. |  |  |  |
| Farm vehicles and machinery (not part of a demonstration) | All visitors – physical injury struck by moving vehicles or machinery |  | Do not carry out vehicle movements during farm visits. If absolutely necessary, ensure vehicles & pedestrians segregated. Provide safe access routes to avoid vehicles. Avoid holding tours at busy times e.g. silage-making. Brief contractors carrying out essential work. |  |  |  |
| Workshop activities | All visitors – physical injury from slips, trips and falls |  | Prevent access to workshop. |  |  |  |
| Uneven ground, steep paths | Visitors on nature trails, farm walks – slips, trips and falls |  | Choose a safe route or path – walk and check route for hazards. Cordon off problem areas. Warn visitors before setting off. Signage. |  |  |  |

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| Slurry pits | All visitors – slips, trips, falls; drowning. |  | Prevent access and ensure adequate fencing to HSE AIS9 standard. Supervision. Signage. |  |  |  |
| Sheep dipping baths | All visitors – drowning. |  | Prevent access and keep dips securely covered. Supervision. |  |  |  |
| Silage pits | All visitors – falls from height; Contamination with manure. |  | Prevent access – area to be roped off when not full. Supervision. Signage. Supervised handwashing. |  |  |  |
| Manure & compost heaps | All visitors – contamination with manure. |  | Prevent access. Supervision. Signage. |  |  |  |
| Ponds and water courses; zoonoses – Weil’s disease | All visitors – drowning; contamination with infective agent from contact with water. |  | Prevent access. Divert route to avoid water course – signage (at entrance and near water course). Washing facilities. *(see later for pond dipping).* |  |  |  |
| Fences and gates;  Electric fences | Visitors’ physical injuries – cuts, grazes etc. Contamination of visitors from touching farm animals or contaminated surfaces followed by ingestion of micro–organisms; electric shock from touching live fences. |  | Maintenance of fences & gates. Regular cleaning to prevent contamination with manure. Provide handwashing facilities *(See Industry Code of Practice).* Information & signage. Double fencing. Cover barbed/electric wire at viewing point. Switch off fence. |  |  |  |
| Barns and yards – bale & fertiliser stacks; unsecured tractor wheels, pallets, boxes etc | All visitors – struck by falling objects, injuries due to climbing/falling. |  | Check stacks are secure & restack if required. Prevent access. Prohibit climbing on stacks *(see later for supervised bale-climbing)*  Remove hazardous objects, tripping hazards etc. Store wheels/tyres etc safely. |  |  |  |
| Grain silos, bins and stores | All visitors – inhaling harmful grain dust; physical injury from falls; entrapment/ suffocation. |  | Prevent access to grain stores/bins. Cover intake pits. Supervision. Signage. Remove access ladders on bins or make safe. |  |  |  |

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| Milking parlour | Visitors at milking demonstration – slips on wet surfaces.  Contamination with manure/slurry. | *See handwashing checklist.* | Clean parlour prior to visit.  Supervised hand and boot washing must be provided. Designated viewing area/ access routes. Supervision. Signage on steps, etc. Remove any tripping hazards. |  |  |  |
| Shearing activities,  electricity,  zoonoses – such as orf, E coli O157, Cryptosporidiosis, etc | Visitors and staff/helpers at shearing demonstration; electric shock or burns; tripping on wires; contamination with manure/dung. |  | Maintenance of electrical equipment & systems. Use RCDs on sheep shears. Regular cleaning of area. Designated viewing areas. Wires out of passageways. Washing facilities. |  |  |  |
| Static machinery (tractors, harvesters, cultivation equipment, ATVs) | Visitors climbing on and playing with machinery displays – physical injury from contact with dangerous parts e.g. spikes or falls from height. |  | Static machinery must be supervised. Keys must be removed. Remove/protect sharp edges & dangerous parts. Signage. Park machinery safely e.g. put chocks against wheels; lift trucks & loader tractors with buckets/spikes on the floor; disable hydraulics. |  |  |  |
| Working machinery (e.g. bale-wrapping, spraying, feeding or bedding animals with machines etc) | Visitors viewing machinery demonstrations: physical injury from contact with dangerous parts. |  | PTO shafts & other dangerous parts must be guarded. Cordon off demonstration area. Signage and supervision. Staff/helper training. Remove keys & park safely when not in use. No chemicals may be sprayed.  No riding on machines permitted. |  |  |  |
| Electrical eq’ment – saw benches, heavy plant (not part of display) | All visitors – physical injury from contact with dangerous parts. |  | Equipment stored or locked away and not used during visit/event. Restrict access. Fit guards to those on display. Disconnect power supply and make safe. |  |  |  |
| Ponds, streams for pond dipping | Children – drowning, slips, falls, cuts, grazes |  | Supervision. Avoid deep water and fast-flowing streams. Barrier to prevent falling in. First aid provision. Handwashing. |  |  |  |
| Bale stacks for bale-climbing | Children – falling, asthma, allergic reactions, entrapment |  | Supervision. Signage. Designated area with purpose-built stack. |  |  |  |

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| Zoonoses including E coli O157, Cryptosporidiosis, Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Chlamydophila abortus (sheep afterbirth), orf, ringworm | Visitors feeding, petting or stroking calves, sheep, lambs, pigs, piglets, goats, kids, horses, foals or contact with their dung, contaminated surfaces fences, & pens; pregnant women (C abortus).  All visitors – in picnic areas and car parking. | Do your handwashing facilities include the following:  Enough basins/points □  Liquid soap □  Paper towels □  Running water □  Bins for used paper towels □  Visitors will be encouraged to wash their hands thoroughly by:  Signage □  Volunteers/staff □  Event guide □  Keep livestock off car parking and picnic areas for 3 weeks prior to OFS. | Select healthy stock. Provide handwashing facilities located next to animal contact areas, or at the exit of controlled contact areas. Signage and supervision by trained staff/helpers must be provided. Explain to visitors they cannot put their hands in their mouths, smoke, eat or drink before washing their hands because of the risk of infection. Animals in contact area should be clean and healthy (no scouring, dags) (*See the* [*Industry Code of Practice Preventing or controlling ill health from animal contact at visitor attractions*](https://www.visitmyfarm.org/component/k2/content/2-healthandsafety) *March 2021)* Have designated eating areas where contact with animals is prevented. |  |  |  |
| Poultry – Psittacosis (dust from faeces), Chlamydia psittaci; | Visitors petting hens, chicks; feeding the chickens, pecked, scratched. |  |  |  |
| Sheep, pigs, horses, cows, goats. | Visitors entering animal pens; feeding the animals; herding animals; performing simple farmyard tasks; contamination with dung, trampled; crushed; bitten; kicked; butted. | No visitor access to animal pens. Fingers/ hands must not be put through the railings/pen fencing. Warn visitors of the dangers of walking behind an animal and that sudden sounds or movement may frighten animals. Use signage and supervision by trained staff/helpers. Prohibit feeding animals – if it is allowed use a bucket, not by hand. Restrict access by providing double fencing. Move less docile animals away from visitor area. |  |  |  |
| Manure and faecal seepage –  E coli 0157 | Visitors viewing animals or entering livestock sheds walking through manure; touching manure on gates/walls/ partitions; contamination on shoes, laces, pushchair wheels; slips, trips and falls. | No access to collecting yards. Clear areas of accumulated dung, faecal seepage. Define pathways and keep clean. Clean gates, partitions. Apply fresh bedding before visit. Provide facilities to allow cleaning of contaminated footwear etc. |  |  |  |

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| Farm pets – dogs and cats | All visitors, especially children – bitten; scratched; toxoplasmosis through stroking, petting. |  | Keep pets indoors away from visitors.  Do not allow visitors to kiss animals. |  |  |  |
| Fuel storage tank | All visitors – personal contamination, fumes, burns. |  | Keep fuel tank locked. Prevent access e.g. remove ladder. Supervision. |  |  |  |
| Animal feeds | All visitors – ingestion of feeds or contamination with micro-organisms. |  | Prevent access to feed stores. Supervision of feeding animals.  Washing facilities. |  |  |  |
| Flora and fauna | Visitors on farm walk or nature trail – ingestion of poisonous fruits or berries etc. |  | Check routes beforehand. Supervision. Warn visitors before setting off. Avoid known hazards on route. |  |  |  |
| Chemical and veterinary products | All visitors – ingestion of harmful chemicals, breathing vapour or skin; contamination. |  | Chemical and veterinary products must be locked away in a suitable store. Access to store prohibited. |  |  |  |
| Food, refreshments | Visitors who eat food supplied at venue – food poisoning, illness. |  | Ensure food providers are trained in food hygiene. |  |  |  |

Please refer to these documents when completing the risk assessment – download at:  
<https://visitmyfarm.org/resources/risk-management> and <https://visitmyfarm.org/resources/code-of-practice>

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| **Access to Farms:** | **Industry Code of Practice (COP): Preventing or controlling ill health from animal contact at visitor attractions** | | | | |
| **Managing Risk Checklist** | Full COP version 3 | Summary of control measures | | | Teacher’s Guide |
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**Questions?**

For all questions relating to your event, please contact one of our team. If you need to edit your website entry or have a question about resources, please contact the LEAF office: telephone 02476 413911 or email: openfarmsunday@leaf.eco.

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