

MAFES Dawg Tracks

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MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
MS AGRICULTURAL AND
FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION

Prevent Eye & Face
Injuries

Approximately 1 million Americans have lost some degree of their sight due to an eye injury. So much of the time we do work that has underlying currents of potential injury to our face and /or eyes.

Preserving our eye sight should be a priority of importance to all of us. We put our eyes at risk anytime that we don't protect them from potential injury on the job. It only takes a split second to damage our eyes.

In our agricultural work we are exposed to many different type of hazards - from sparks in the shop, possible pesticide splashes, to debris from combines or planting equipment during the respective seasons.

Reasons for Protection-

- 3 out of every 5 workers who suffer face and eye injuries on the job **were not wearing any face or eye protection.**
- 2 out of 5 workers who suffer face and eye injuries on the job while wearing face and eye protection got hurt because they were **wearing the wrong kind of protection.**
- Each day in the USA, about 2,000 workers have job-related eye injuries that require medical treatment. Approximately 100 will lose one or more days of work.
- Over 700,000 Americans experience eye injuries each year-90% of these could be prevented by wearing the proper type of safety eyewear.

Avoiding Eye injuries-

- ✓ Be alert to potential hazards around you.
- ✓ Follow all safety procedures.
- ✓ Know the types of eyewear that will protect you from injury.
- ✓ Wear the eyewear anytime that you might think that your eyes may be in "harm's way."

Common Types of Eye/Face Protection:

Safety Glasses with side shields-

- Safety glasses with side shields will protect your eyes when you're sanding, grinding, mowing or any job where the chance of debris getting thrown.
- The side shields and brow guards will protect your eyes from matter entering from the side or the top.
- Most sunglasses are not safety glasses. Safety glasses will have Z87 stamped on the inside of frame.
- If you are uncertain about the type of eyewear needed for your task-ask your supervisor for help.

Goggles-

- Goggles provide greater protection from liquids, splashes, and dusts than safety glasses.
- It is important that you need to be sure that the goggles fit tightly on your face.
- Goggles will provide the best protection against liquid pesticides and other toxic chemicals.
- You should also wear goggles (or may need full-face respirator) when you:
 - ~Ride in an open cab during an air blast pesticide.
 - ~Flag under an aerial application.
 - ~Apply mist, fogs, or aerosols indoors.
- The pesticide label will tell you whether or not that goggles are required.

Face Shield Protection-

- Working with pesticides in certain high exposure situations, you should wear a face shield.
- A face shield isn't enough protection by itself, you should wear safety glasses or goggles as well.

Actions in the Event of an accident –

- If you get dust or other small particle in your eye, look down and flush it out with eyewash solution. Use water if eyewash solution isn't available.
- If a pesticide splash gets in your eye, immediately use a portable eyewash dispenser or call for help to get to an eyewash station.
- Flush your eyes for 15 minutes. Have someone to call for medical help while you're flushing.
- The material safety data sheet (MSDS) or the product label will also give you first aid instructions on how to handle the problem.

EYE/ FACE PROTECTION – DOs & DON'Ts

DO:

- **Check the MSDS or pesticide label, if you don't know which type of protective eyewear to use.**
- **Clean dirty frames and lenses.**
- **Ask for different protective lenses if they are scratched or damaged.**
- **Use eye wash solution or water to mitigate dust or other foreign matter in your eye.**

DON'T:

- **Wear regular glasses in a situation where protective eyewear is required.**
- **Wait to begin flushing if you should get something in your eye.**
- **Forget to always check the product label or MSDS for first aid instructions.**

**FLYING OBJECTS CAN BE BRUTAL-
IF YOU DON'T PROTECT YOUR
NOODLE~!!**

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BE SAFE <><><>NOT SORRY

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Excerpts: www.gemplers.com
www.safetymxchange.org

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