

LESSON 11 – CASE STUDIES

11.1 Toddler dies in manure pit

Gearing Up Daily News

Bluffton - Jesus Emmanuel, the six-year-old son of Jessie and Marie Emmanuel, drowned in a manure transfer pit on the Winchester Farms hog operation near Overview. His family and he lived in a nearby seasonal housing complex that provided housing for a number of families working for Winchester Farms.

Based upon reports from the Logan County Sheriff's Office, it appears that the Emmanuel boy wandered from the housing complex and fell into an uncovered pit partially filled with liquid hog manure. He was discovered by one of the employees working on a pump located in the bottom of the pit. The pit had been left uncovered while efforts were being made to determine why the pump was not working properly.

The boy's body was recovered by first responders from the High County Volunteer Fire Rescue Department in Bluffton.

11.2 Worker overcome while working in hog building

Gearing Up Daily News

Burlington - Jeff Brinkman, a resident of Burlington, was found unconscious by his employer in a 150-foot-long hog finishing barn at the Sky-High Farms south of Frenchtown. The employee, age 17, was operating a high-pressure washer cleaning the pens prior to receiving a new shipment of hogs for finishing. His employer, Tom Overmyer, wasn't sure at first what caused the boy to be overcome and immediately opened all the windows, doors and turned on the ventilation system.

Overmyer then dragged the unconscious worker out of the barn and called for emergency help.

Both the Frenchtown Fire Department and the county EMS responded. It was immediately determined that the source of the fumes was the gasoline powered high-pressure washer Brinkman was using rather than gases from the manure pit under the building. Firemen, using a carbon monoxide detector, found dangerously high levels of the gas in the building.

Brinkman was transported to St. Lake's Hospital where his condition is unknown at this time.

11.3 Illinois boy overcome by silo fumes dies

Gearing Up Daily News

Tampica - A 13-year-old boy who was overcome by fumes at a Northern Illinois grain silo has died, becoming the second victim to die from the farm accident that also claimed the lives of his father, authorities said. Dave Lemmon was pronounced dead on Tuesday, according to the Honeybee County Sheriff's Office. The boy had been hospitalized at Children's Hospital since breathing in the silage gas last Monday. The boy's father, 52-year-old James Lemmon also died.

According to family members, David and his father entered the silo to prepare the silo unloader so feeding of the silage could begin. The silo had recently been filled in with freshly chopped corn silage.

David, was able to climb down the silo's chute and seek help.



11.4 17-year-old serious injured when loader fell into manure pit has died

Gearing Up Daily News

Cortland - The 17-year-old who was seriously injured Thursday when a loader she was operating fell into a liquid manure pit has died.

The Zinscot Farm said Friday afternoon in a Twitter post that Helen Francis, the daughter of Emma and Mason Francis, the farm's owners, died that morning. "it's with a heavy heart that we must announce that Emma and Mason Francis lost their daughter this morning after an accident. We ask that you be respectful of the family and space and give them time," the post reads. The 17-year old was operating a skid steer loader at Zinscot Farm on Route 217, also known as Ruby Center Ave, in Ruby Township when the machine fell into the pit.

She was taken to Western Ruby Medical Center after the accident.

11.5 Boy safe after falling into manure pit

Gearing Up Daily News

Zoonic - A scary moment for the family of a four-year-old boy who fell into a liquid manure pit Wednesday night. The Farmland County Sheriff's office says the call about a farm accident came in around 7:40 p.m. Sheriff's deputies and Zoonic Fire and Rescue responded to the farm in the 8000 block of 750th street in Zoonic Township. Emergency responders found the boy about a foot from the edge with both legs and his left arm submerged. Zoonic Rescue entered the pit with a safety rope and was able to pull the boy out unharmed.

