

Agriculture is one of the most dangerous industries in the U.S.

Hazard mapping is an effective tool as part of the Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) to create a safe work environment for employees.

Hazard Mapping: A Tool to Identify Health & Safety Hazards in Agriculture

 Isabel Flores Garcia, Heather E. Riden
Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety, University of California, Davis

1. IIPP Requirements

- Every employer in CA is required by Cal/OSHA to establish, implement, and maintain a written IIPP plan.
- A copy of the plan should be maintained at each worksite.
- Required plan elements:
 1. Assignment of the responsibility for safety
 2. Systems for ensuring employee compliance with safety procedures
 3. Communication with employees and methods for involving them in safety-related activities
 4. Hazard assessment/inspection
 5. Investigations of occupational injuries, occupational illnesses, and accidents
 6. Correction of hazards
 7. Occupational safety and health training
 8. Recordkeeping and documentation of your program and program activities

3. Training Outcomes

- In 2018, three IIPP trainings were conducted for 38 participants.
- During the training, small groups worked together to identify safety, chemical, and biological hazards, among others.
- Participants expressed surprise at identifying previously unknown hazards.

2. WCAHS IIPP Training

- Free 2-hour training including hands-on hazard mapping.
- Designed to train employers to identify workplace hazards to reduce worker injuries and illnesses.
- Hazards discussed include:
 - Safety
 - Chemical & Biological
 - Ergonomic
- By identifying existing and potential hazards, employers can implement safety procedures to avoid hazards in the workplace.
- Participants receive an easy-to-use model template, guidebook, factsheets, and tools to implement their IIPP plan.
- Cal/OSHA consultants attend & respond to questions regarding IIPP requirements.

4. Participant Feedback

- "Provided me with more information and ideas on how to reduce work related injuries."
- "Provided more insight on how to properly follow our company's IIPP and most importantly, how to reinforce it."
- "I was able to understand the big responsibility we have on our hands to provide consistent training to keep workers safe."

