



## Hello there,

Welcome to the AgriKids Farm Safety Handbook. Farms are such wonderful places to visit and grow up on. We learn about science, animals, where food comes from, maths and enterprise, but it's so important to remember that a farm is the most dangerous of workplaces. So this handbook will be your guide to help you be farm safe and stay farm safe.

Thank you so much to Flogas for making this possible and for helping us create more conversations on farm safety in our homes and communities.

### This Agrikids Farm Safety Handbook beLongs to:



# **My Emergency Plan**

In an emergency what is your pLan of action:

### Important Numbers:



(8.00am to 10.00pm, 7 days a week)

Contacts:

Guardian/Parent:

Guardian/Parent:

Eircode:

# 1. My Farm Visit CheckList

We want all you AgriKids to be farm safe and to stay farm safe. So lets plan our farm visit.

## 1. What to Know Before You Go!

Take a look at the pictures below and in the spaces provided fill in the details such as grown ups you can visit a farm with and the type of farm(s) you visit.

#### Who are you going with?

We never visit a farm alone. Make sure you only visit with a grown up, a farm can be full of many dangers that you do not know about yet and having a grown up will help you learn where is OK and where you must stay away!

Grown ups I can visit the farm with:



#### What kind of farm is it?

Is it a dairy farm, beef farm or tillage? There are many different kinds of farms. By knowing what kind of farm you are visiting you know what to expect and what to look out for!

The kind of farms I visit:



#### Are big jobs planned?

If the farm is going to be busy then it is **NOT** the time to go for a visit. Wait until the work is done. There could be machinery in full swing or animals being moved around. Not the place for non-farmers to be!

#### Times when the farm is busy:



#### Know the signs

You will see many warning signs on the farm. But do you know what their colours mean and the dangers they are warning you about? Don't worry as up next we will learn more about the Safety Signs!

#### Signs I have seen on the farm:

## 2. What to wear

- ✓ Wear high visibility clothing so that you can be seen.
- ✓ Wear warm clothes especially in winter and strong shoes.
- Bring a rain jacket in case it rains.
- × Do not wear flip-flops or sandals.
- × Do not wear skates, wheelies or rollerblades.
- × Do not wear loose fitting clothes, or clothes with straps or strings that can snag.

## 3. What to do

- ✓ Only go where it is safe and permitted on a farm.
- Heed all warning signs.
- ✓ Leave gates how found them shut them if you opened them.
- × Never wander around a farm on your own.
- × If you see a red or yellow warning sign anywhere do not go there.
- × Never touch a fence which may be electrified.
- × Keep back from any river, pond or ditch.
- × Never go into a field with animals, such as a bull or animals with their young.

## 4. What to bring

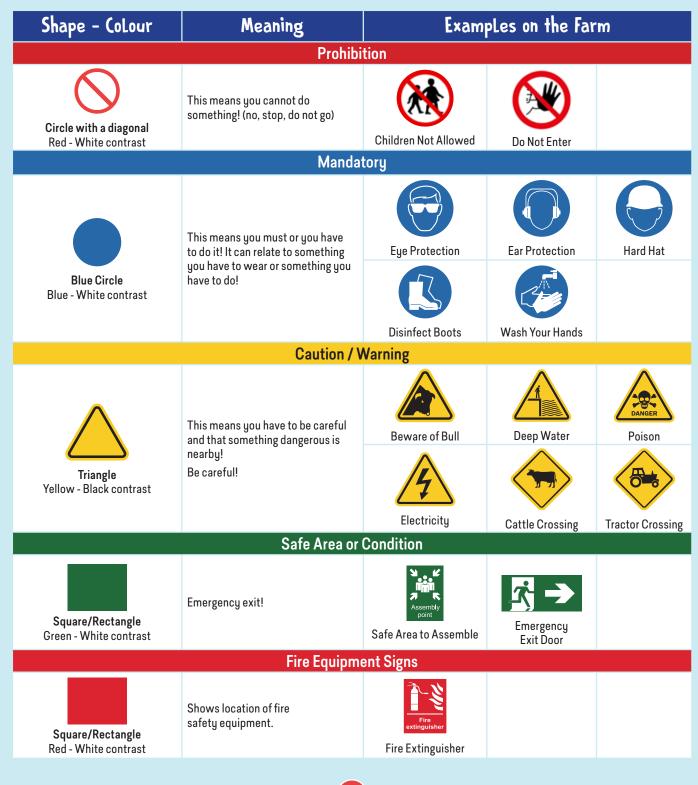
- ✓ A mobile phone with emergency & useful contact numbers stored.
- If there is an emergency do you know the Eircode to tell the emergency services?

## Did we Leave anything out?

Fill in your checklist entry below!

# 2. The Signs

Safety signs come in different colours and use pictures to help us stay safe. Check out the different signs and find out why **some are blue**, **some are red**, **some are green** and **some are yellow**!





- 1. If you see a yellow or red warning sign... STAY AWAY.
- 2. Do not enter fields with livestock such as bulls or animals with their young.
- 3. Never enter a field that is not yours, this is trespassing.
- 4. Be careful of electric fencing you could get a nasty shock!
- 5. Remember if the sign is BLUE... then you have to!

## Parents

- 1. Make sure your children are aware of the various signs to look out for.
- 2. Do they understand their meanings?
- 3. Are they aware of where they can and cannot play?
- 4. Point out examples of warning signs when out driving or walking.

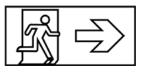
#### Oh no we forgot to coLour in the safety signs!

#### Can you colour in and match the sign?

Using your crayons or pencils can you add the correct colour to each sign and find its meaning? **Hint:** See the colours for each meaning!









## Wear GoggLes

**Disinfect Boots** 

**Tractors Crossing** 

No Entry

**ELectric Wires** 

**Beware of Bull** 

Emergency Exit

Poisonous Substances

Children Not Allowed

**Deep Water** 











# 3. The Farmyard

## On the farmyard there is much to see and do.

We should only visit when with a grown up and when the farmer is not planning any major jobs. There are many dangers we need to be careful of and it's important to know when we can stay and when we **MUST** stay away!



FARMYARD

SAF

1. Never enter a farm yard alone.

- 2. When on a farm listen and do what the adult tells you.
- 3. Never climb gates or ladders if left lying against a wall, you could easily fall!
- 4. When near a field check for signs warning you about electric fences or livestock.

## Parents

- 1. Children should never visit a farm unattended.
- 2. Keep children away from moving machinery.
- 3. Lock all chemicals away.
- 4. Explain to them where the dangers might be.
- 5. Make sure all gates are hung secure and ladders are not left lying against walls. These could be a crush or fall hazard for children.



# 4. The Animals

Knowing the warning signs with animals means you know when they are feeling **upset**, **content** or **aggressive**.



#### Bulls

Bulls are very territorial animals and farmers must show great care when handling them. Here are some key tips to keep farmers safe when working with bulls!

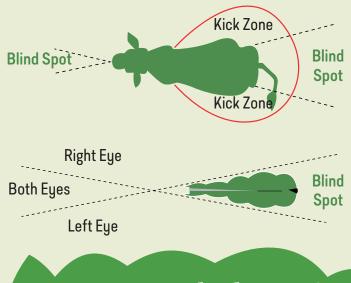
#### ALways remember...

- Never turn your back on a bull.
- Only experienced people should handle a bull.
- Never enter an enclosed area with a bull.
- Never tease a bull.
- Bulls should associate people with nice things, such as feeding, grooming and exercise, but don't make a "pet" of him.
- Make sure the bull is dehorned.
- At about 9 months fit a nose ring and chain on a bull.
- Use a vet to place the ring and have it checked regularly.
- Put up warning signs at the entrance to the bull's enclosure. (BEWARE OF BULL)

## **BLind Spots**

When you stand or approach an animal in their blind spot you are at risk of getting hurt as they cannot see you.

Horses and cattle have blind spots directly in front and directly behind them. So make sure to avoid these areas when you approach, you could startle and scare them.



## Q. Do bulls get angry when they see redi

A. No, bulls are colour blind and cannot see colours such as red and green. They can make out shadows but what actually prompts them to charge is movement and/or anyone that enters their territory. Bulls are very territorial animals.

### Zoonoses

Zoonotic diseases are infections passed from animals to people. To prevent sickness, it is very important that you always wash your hands after visiting a farm and after touching or petting animals.

#### 20 seconds is aLL it takes to get your hands really clean. Warm soapy water is best.

To make sure you wash your hands properly, follow the pictures below.



#### Common zoonotic diseases:

AnimaL	Disease
Goats/Sheep	Orf
Horses/Cattle	Ringworm
Rodents/Cattle/Dogs	Weils Disease (Leptospirosis)
Cats	Toxoplasmosis

#### Remember

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If the Sign is **BLUE**...then you have to!



For more see www.zoonoses.ie

## What you meed:

1 dice and a button or counter for each player

## Rules:

- The player who throws the highest number goes first.
- You must throw the exact number to finish, eg. If you need a 3 to finish and throw a 4, you must stay and wait until it's your turn to throw again.

You bought a new plough, move on two spaces.	26	27
24	The tractor has a flat tyre, move back 1 space	22
13	14	Tou finished mowing the meadow. Move on 1 space
Your forgot to wash your hands go back two spaces	11	10
1 Start	2	You forgot your hi vis vest, go back to the start

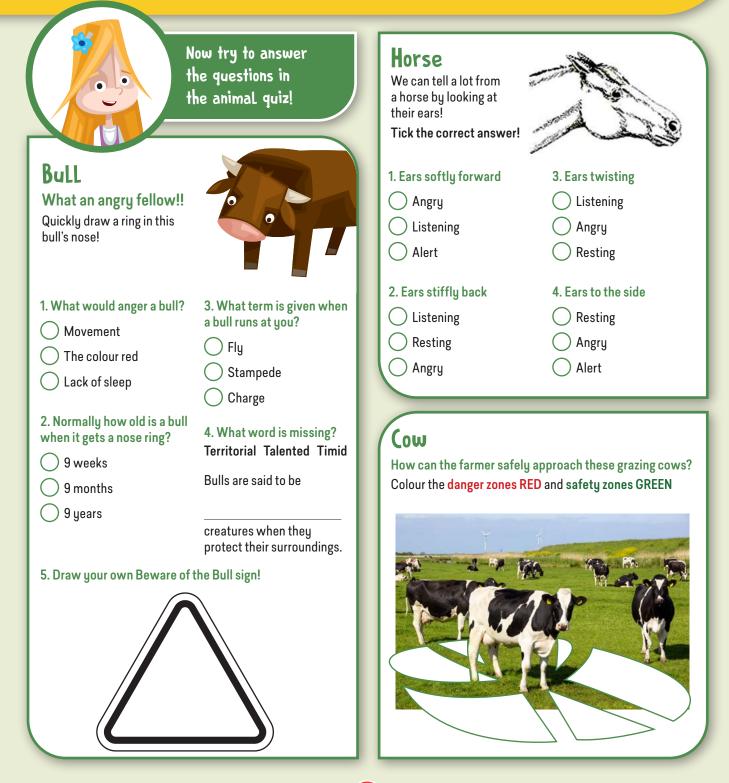
28	You did not wash your hands, move back three spaces	30 Home	
The sun is shining, make some hay. Move on three spaces.	20	19	
16	17	The sheep have broken out, move back two spaces	
You fixed the gate -   move on two spaces	8	7	
Ę	5	You have help to milk the cows, throw again!	
•	•	•	



- 1. Farm animals are not pets.
- 2. Bulls and freshly calved cows can be aggressive.
- 3. Know animal blind spots.
- 4. To approach an animal, ask an adult who knows the animal. The animals will be less nervous.
- 5. Never approach an animal when they are with their young, they are protective and can attack.
- 6. Always wear a helmet and back protector when riding a horse.
- 7. Avoid germs from animals by washing your hands after touching or petting them.

## Parents

- 1. Explain the dangers of farm animals to your children.
- 2. Be extra vigilant during lambing, calving and foaling season when once placid animals can become more aggressive.
- 3. Reduce the risk of infection. Enforce hand washing after contact zoonotic diseases are passed from animals to humans.



# 5. Tractors and Machinery

There are so many machines used on our farms, each helping the farmer carry out important jobs. See some of the main machines used on our farms pictured below.

#### The Tractor



Used on farms to pull equipment such as trailers, ploughs, harrows, slurry agitators etc.

#### The PLough



Digs up the earth to loosen the soil before the farmer sows the next crop in the field.

#### The SLurry Agitator



A slurry agitator is used to agitate (mix) slurry which is kept in a tank or pit on the farm.

#### The SLurry Spreader

Spreads slurry across the farmer's fields.

#### The Sprayer



Sprays fertilisers and pesticides on crops to keep them healthy.

#### The BaLer



The baler is used to bale hay and straw. Bales can be round, small rectangle or large rectangle.

#### The Combine Harvester



Cuts and harvests grain and cereal crops.

#### The Quad Bike



Four wheel motorised bike used to drive across fields. They are only suitable for one driver and safety equipment must be worn.

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#### The Power Take Off (P.T.O.)



The P.T.O. takes the power from a tractor engine to run a piece of equipment such as a mower or agitator.



- 1. NEVER stand near a tractor or any farm machinery when in use.
- 2. As drivers sit up high they may not see you until it is too late.
- 3. Tractors are very noisy and the driver will not hear you.
- 4. If you want a closer look only do so with an adult and when the machine is not in use.
- Power Take Off devices (P.T.O.'s), can turn 9-16 times per second. Never stand near a working P.T.O.

## Parents

- 1. Keep children away from farm machinery when it is in use.
- 2. Farmers, if there was a roll over, stay secured in your seat, by wearing the seat belt.
- 3. Children should not be permitted to travel in a tractor if younger than 7 or if a passenger seat and belt are not fitted.
- 4. P.T.O. guards should always be in place and in perfect working order.

## **Tractor Safety**

## 1. BLind Spots

#### Remeber you can not be seen!

Never stand near a moving tractor! Visibility can be limited for farmers when sitting high up in tractors, combine harvesters, etc and they will not see you if you approach.

Look at the picture below and note where the blind spots are located.



## 2. The Tractor Safety CheckList

All farmers should check the following before using their tractor.

- TYRES good tyres give good control.
- CLEAN THE STEPS into the cab of mud so no one slips.
- APPLY HANDBRAKE this prevents the tractor rolling when on an incline.
- CLEAN CAB FLOOR to avoid the risk of bottles rolling under pedals and jamming them.
- CLEAN WINDOWS for good visibility.
- CHECK LIGHTS AND MIRRORS for visibility.
- Is the P.T.O. correctly fitted and covered with safety chains in place?

Tractors and machinery are the main causes of accidents on our farms.

## 3. What Age Are You?

<7 years	No children under 7 should be permitted to ride in a tractor. (ROI only)
7+ years	You should only be a passenger in a tractor if there is a passenger seat and seat belt. (ROI only)
13 years	In the UK the age permitted to be a passenger in a Tractor.
14 years	You may drive a tractor on the farm only after completing a training course and under adult supervision.
16 years	You may drive a tractor on the road with a category W licence.



## 4. The Safe Stop

When you are old enough to drive a tractor remember the Safe Stop!



## About P.T.O.'s

## What is a P.T.O.?

P.T.O. stands for Power Take Off. It is a powerful and commonly used item on our farms.

## What is it used for?

Used in the right way, a P.T.O. transfers power from a tractor to other equipment such as agitators and balers.

## How is it dangerous?

The P.T.O. turns extremely fast, approx. 9-16 times per second.

Farmers can become entangLed on an unguarded P.T.O.

## How can farmers stay safe?

A few simple rules could help prevent farmers being hurt by a P.T.O.

- Be sure P.T.O. guards are fitted, in good condition and always use the safety chains.
- ✓ Start and stop the P.T.O. from the tractor seat.
- Detach or remove draw strings from sweatshirts and jackets.
- ✓ Tie back long hair.
- × Do not wear lose fitted clothing.
- × NEVER walk over a P.T.O. WALK AROUND IT.



P.T.O. with guard

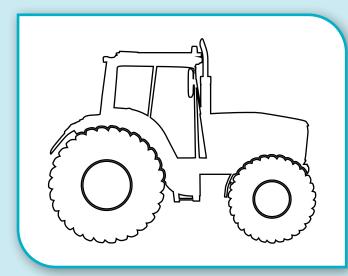


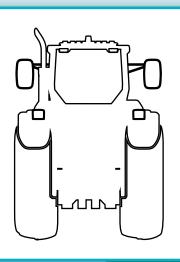
P.T.O. with chains fitted



The header on a combine is powered with a P.T.O.

## Can you shade in the area on the tractor bLind spots?





## **Quad Bike Safety**

Quad bikes, also known as all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are used on many farms. They help farmers transport food to animals, check on livestock and fields.

## Quad Safety - Remember your A.T.V.S.

#### Age:

Are you 16 years old? Quads commonly used on farms are only to be ridden by those aged 16 years or more! Quad bikes are not designed to carry passengers as they add weight to the vehicle, making it harder to control and more likely to tip over!

#### Training:

Farmers must ensure they have proper training before using a quad bike.

#### **Visual Inspection**:

Farmers check tyres and electrics as well as fuel, water and oil levels. Is there any damage on the quad?

#### Safety Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment, (P.P.E.):

Helmet: Protects from serious injury. Boots: Provides better grip. Long sleeves and trousers: Protects the farmers against cuts and scrapes. Gloves: Also provide better grip and keep the farmer warm in winter.



Pic: Noel Guinan, cbtgroup.ie



NEVER ride as a passenger Passengers can cause a loss of control, resulting in SEVERE INJURY or DEATH.



## Quiz Time

1. Which of these pieces of farm equipment uses a P.T.O.?

- ) Mower
- Wheelbarrow
- ) Diet Feeder
- Agitator
- O Plough

Hedge Cutter

Trailer

#### 3. Safe Stop

Can you put the Safe Stop in the correct order, 1 - 6? Circle your answer.

3	4	5 🤇	6
3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6
	3 3 3 3	3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 5 3 4 5 3 4 5 3 4 5 3 4 5

2. Word scramble Can you work out the tractor brand from the jumbled up letters? 1.NWELHALDON
2. AMSSEY GUOFRNES
3. EUTDZ RAHF4. NHOJ EEERD
5. OCCIRMKMC
7. DRFO
9. AATLRV

<b>4. Word Search</b> Can you find the hidden machines in the grid?		
Roller	Helmet	
Plough	Trailer	
Hedge Cutter	Diet feeder	
Cultivator	Quad Bike	
Sower	Agitator	
Mower	Baler	

0

С 0 Ζ Q Q Η D Μ 0 Μ G G I Ε ۷ Ν Η Ζ F Q Q F Ε U 0 Η Х ۷ Ν G Т Μ L Ν S 0 Т Т Η Ζ Η А Η Е S W С А L Ρ Μ Ε D 0 Е Е В U D В Κ Κ W U ۷ Μ I Μ Ε G Т I F D Ζ Т ۷ W Х I С Κ Μ L М Е R В Т Е Ζ R R G R 0 L Т I Y Н L R Т Е Ε 0 G J Х ۷ L R I Κ U R U В С D R U Q Т С G Т 0 F D L А Α Н Μ Ζ Ε ۷ U А S 0 Y Ρ 0 Ρ Y R R R А S F Ρ Ε Е В D Т U U L 0 W S U L Ν S D G L Ε Т Ρ А R Ε W 0 Ζ Κ J Q Μ R С Ε А U Y Y Y R S R W W Ε С W 0 D R G Ζ Т R F L Х Κ ۷ ۷ Y Q U В S Т Т U С Ρ Μ U W R 0 А ۷ T L Ν W S U Y С F D Q D S F Y А F U J 0 J Т ۷ R В S С Т J Т R 0 Т А I G А I Ρ Η Т В Ρ Х Ζ D R U R J W J Y Ν Μ

# 6. Poisons & Slurry



## What is sLurry?

Slurry is the poo and wee from cows. We also use slurry from pigs and chickens. Slurry is stored in a tank or a lagoon on a farm yard.



Pic courtesy Major Machinery.

**O**Y

## What is it used for?

Slurry is a great fertiliser and full of nutrients to help our crops and grass to grow. Agitation is when we mix and churn slurry before spreading it on our fields with a spreader.

## How is it dangerous?

As well as being a drowning hazard, the bacteria in slurry produces a very toxic and invisible gas called Hydrogen Sulphide, H2S. At a high level, this gas takes away our sense of smell & just one lungful can be fatal. The gas is released during agitation. One Lungful of slurry gas can kill!

## How can farmers stay safe?

- 1. Agitate on a windy day
- 2. Put all animals outside
- 3. Open all doors to allow air flow
- 4. Keep away from the area for up to 1 hour during agitation.



## About Pesticides

Farmers use Pesticides on their farms. These help keep 'Pests' from harming farm animals and crops. See common Pesticides used on farms and how they help farmers.

Herbicide	Fungicide	Rodenticide	Insecticide
Gets rid of weeds	Protects crops and plants from diseases and fungus	Keeps rats and mice away	Protects animals from flies and lice.

#### Other examples of chemicals used on farm:

- Doses for livestock
- Animal medicines
- ! Detergents

## These chemicals can be poisonous for humans and harm us in different ways:

- ! Burn skin and tissue if we touch or inhale them
- ! Toxic or poisonous if we eat or drink them
- ! Harms the environment
- ! Explosive

Make sure all chemicals are locked away. Some poisons burn our skin, others if inhaled or ingested can make us very ill. Ask at home about what chemicals are used on your farm and why!

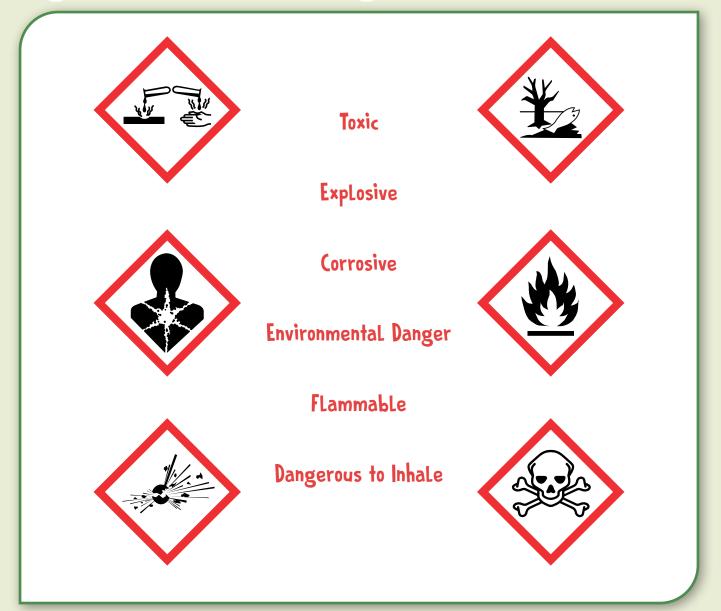


- 1. As well as poisonous gases, slurry is also a drowning hazard.
- 2. If you see the door of a chemical shed unlocked tell an adult immediately to lock it.
- 3. If slurry is being agitated on the farm, stay at home!
- 4. Learn the warning signs for chemicals to know what the dangers are!
- 5. Remember just one lungful of slurry gas is fatal!

## Parents

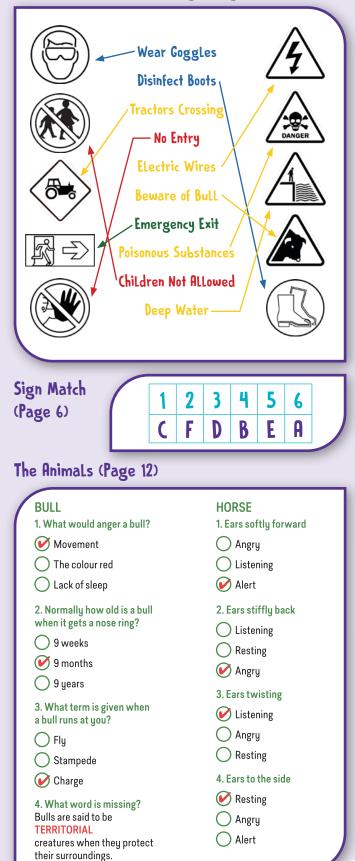
- 1. Make sure all slurry tanks are fenced off/ covered.
- 2. Children and pets should never be in the vicinity during slurry agitation or spreading.
- 3. Animals must be taken out of sheds before agitation starts.
- 4. Agitate slurry on windy days.
- 5. Agitation points should be located outside of the building.
- 6. Do not enter the shed for up to 1 hour after agitation as the first 30mins is the most dangerous.
- 7. Make sure all chemicals are locked away.

# Can you match the chemical warning signs to their meanings?

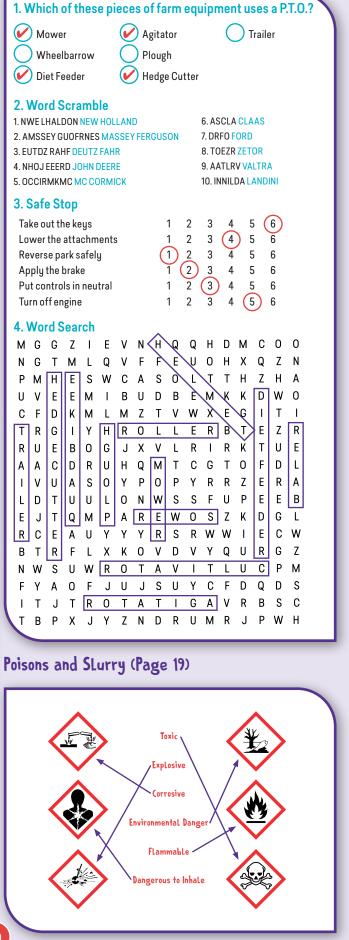


## Answers

#### CoLour in and match the sign (Page 4)



#### Tractors and Machinery (Page 17)





# An Agrikids Certificate in Farm Safety



## This is to certify that

## is an officiaL Agrikid!

Therefore you are a recognised ambassador of farm safety awareness and practice.

## Be Farm Safe. Stay Farm Safe.





The AgriKids Farm Safety Handbook has been designed to help your future farmer be farm safe and to stay farm safe. It is something that can be used by the whole family!

You can learn more on farm safety by visiting www.agrikids.ie



At Flogas, where 'Safety First' comes first, we are proud to support AgriKids in helping children to be farm safe. We provide LPG, natural gas and electricity, bringing light, warmth and instant hot water to farming families at home and in the farmyard.

> Read the stories of dairy farming families that have switched to Flogas LPG for their instant hot water needs on: www.flogas.ie/dairy | www.flogasni.com/dairy