

## Purpose

The Agricultural Occupational Health Training Program at the University of Iowa provides basic information and skills to enable the health care professional to function in the anticipation, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of occupational illnesses and injuries in the farm community.

This training is also designed to establish a member clinic of the AgriSafe Network.

The training is specifically for nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants, physical therapists, and any additional interested health care providers. Over 300 physicians, physician assistants, nurses, veterinarians, and other professionals have completed this program and gone back to their communities to provide services for farmers and their families.

The Agricultural Occupational Health Training Program is taught every spring in two, three day sessions (six days total). It is being expanded to allow part of the program to be taught as a distance learning program.

## Session I

### Topics include:

- Rural Health and Agricultural Medicine
- Veterinary Pharmaceuticals, Biologicals and Antibiotics
- Agricultural Toxicology
- Zoonotic Diseases
- Agricultural Skin Diseases
- Cancer in the Farm Environment
- Agricultural Trauma
- Agricultural Respiratory Issues



### Educational Objectives

Session I will enable students to, for example:

- Define rural health and agricultural medicine, as compared to urban health care.
- Describe the various agricultural subpopulations.
- Identify the hazards of biologicals, pharmaceuticals, and antibiotics used in livestock production.
- Discuss the major types of pesticides, exposure, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of pesticide poisoning.
- Explain the principles of the cholinesterase test, and how it can/should be used in diagnosis and prevention.
- Describe the signs, symptoms, and treatment options of several common zoonotic diseases in humans: brucellosis, swine influenza, erysipeloid, leptospirosis, anthrax, histoplasmosis, ornithosis, etc.
- Identify substances in the farm environment capable of producing contact dermatitis, and describe preventive procedures for each.

## Session II

### Topics include:

- Ergonomics in Agriculture
- Easter Seals Rural Solutions Program
- Skin Cancer
- Physiology and Detection of Occupational Hearing Impairment
- Behavioral Health Issues in the Farming Community
- Respiratory Protection/ Fit Testing
- Development of an Agricultural Health Clinic



### Educational Objectives

Session II will enable students to, for example:

- Describe the causes of farm related stress and mental health issues including anxiety, depression, domestic violence and substance abuse.
- Recognize the effects of farm activities on noise induced hearing loss.
- Identify the major ergonomic risk factors facing farmers.
- Describe the signs, symptoms, causes and prevention strategies of skin cancer in rural residents.
- Identify the appropriate use and selection of respiratory, noise, and chemical hazard personal protective equipment.
- Understand the steps and procedures, and discuss considerations, in establishing an agricultural health and safety service network clinic or agricultural occupational health clinic.
- And much more!



## Credit Hours and Certificate

Continuing education credits are usually available for those taking these courses.

Sessions I and II combined may be taken for 3 hours of graduate credit from the College of Public Health. This credit may be applied to most degree programs in the College of Public Health, or in health sciences programs at other universities.

The course is designed for participants to attend both sessions. Class size will be limited with preference given to those who register for both sessions.

A certificate is awarded after successful completion of the exams.

### Training Director



Kelley Donham, MS, DVM  
Director, Iowa's Center for  
Agricultural Safety and Health

Professor and Associate Head for  
Agricultural Medicine, University  
of Iowa College of Public Health

For more information about CEU and CME awards, or to receive a detailed course syllabus, contact Kay Mohling at the University of Iowa at (319) 335-4219 or e-mail: [kay-mohling@uiowa.edu](mailto:kay-mohling@uiowa.edu)

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*Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Kay Mohling in advance at (319) 335-4219*

The University of Iowa  
College of Public Health



## Agricultural Occupational Health Training Program



Session I & Session II  
The University of Iowa Campus

Sponsored by:



Great Plains  
Center for  
Agricultural Health