

Working in the UK from overseas?

Your health and safety at work in agriculture and food processing



This is a web-friendly version
of pocket card INDG410

Introduction

- UK health and safety law protects you whether you are working here legally or not.
- Your employer has to protect your health, safety and welfare.
- You have a right to know who employs you. If you don't know, **ask**.
- There are some things **you** have to do under UK health and safety law.

What your employer must do

General

- Tell you about any risks to your health and safety connected with your job.
- Display a certificate showing they have Employers' Liability Compulsory Insurance.

Information and training

- Give you the information, instruction and training you need to work safely and make sure you have understood it.
- Make sure you can understand any safety signs in your workplace.
- Make sure you can always speak to an experienced supervisor and that you can understand each other.

Equipment and clothing

- Not allow you to drive or operate any agricultural machinery, including a tractor, unless you have been properly trained.
- Make sure any equipment you need to use is suitable and properly looked after.
- If needed, give you (free) protective equipment or clothing, which should be warm and/or waterproof if you have to work outside.

Your welfare

- Make sure there are adequate toilet and washing facilities you can use, and clean drinking water.
- Make sure you can get emergency first aid.
- Keep a record of any injuries, ill health or dangerous occurrences and report them to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Women and young people

- Consider any risks to women of child-bearing age, particularly if they are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Consider the needs of workers under 18 years old.

What you must do

- Make sure what you do at work does not put you or other people at risk.
- Help your employer to reduce health and safety risks in the workplace.
- Use any work equipment in the way that you were trained.
- Use properly anything supplied for your health and safety.
- Let your employer know (in writing) if you are pregnant, breastfeeding or have given birth within the past six months.

What to do if you are concerned about your health and safety

- Talk to your employer, manager or supervisor.
- Talk to your safety representative if there is one.

If you still think you or other workers are at risk, contact HSE. You can speak to HSE confidentially and without giving your name. See 'Further information' for contact details.

Other advice

Under UK law, you have other basic rights such as limits on how long you have to work, time off, rest breaks and paid annual leave. For information about your terms and conditions of work, contact:

- the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) National Helpline on 08457 474747 or e-mail using their website: www.acas.org.uk;
- your local Citizens Advice Bureau (look in the telephone book) or use their website: www.adviceguide.org.uk;
- the trades union movement. Telephone the TUC's Know Your Rights helpline on 08970 600 4882 or e-mail using their website: www.tuc.org.uk.

Further information

For information about health and safety ring HSE's Infoline Tel: 0845 345 0055
Fax: 0845 408 9566 Textphone: 0845 408 9577 e-mail: hse.infoline@natbrit.com or
write to HSE Information Services, Caerphilly Business Park, Caerphilly CF83 3GG,
or visit the HSE website: www.hse.gov.uk.

This leaflet contains notes on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.

This pocket card is available in priced packs of 25, ISBN 978 0 7176 6241 8, including four copies in English and three each of translated versions in Bulgarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Russian and Ukrainian. Single free copies are also available from HSE Books.