

From the Orange County Farm News, Sept. 1976

For those of you who don't know much about farms, OSHA has printed primers, er, rather, "booklets", explaining health and safety rules in and around the farm, particularly when dealing with animals and equipment. The booklets are written in such simplistic language that OSHA is finding it difficult convincing literate people it isn't trying to insult their intelligence.

One newspaper, the Omaha, Neb., World-Herald, did take offense, and wrote an editorial entitled "Dick and Jane Visit the Farm." Here is the World-Herald's "answer" to OSHA:

See the book.
See the little book.
See the little OSHA book.
What is OSHA?

OSHA is your government.
OSHA is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

OSHA helps people.
OSHA helps people be safe.
OSHA wants farmers to be safe.
OSHA made the little book for farmers.
What does the little book say?

This is what it says:

Be careful around the farm. . . Hazards are one of the main causes of accidents. A hazard is anything that is dangerous.

Be careful when you are handling animals. Tired or hungry or frightened cattle can bolt and trample you. Be patient, talk softly around the cows. Don't move fast or be loud around them. If they are upset, don't go into the pen with them.

A bawling calf can cause all the cows to be upset. If that happens, stay out of the feedlot. They could bolt and knock you down.

Always try to keep a fence between you and your cattle. Never try to handle a bull alone. Always have a helper.

Don't fall.

Be careful that you do not fall into the manure pits. Put up signs and fences to keep people away. These pits are very dangerous.

Put away tools, equipment and feed when not using them. . . When floors are wet and slippery with manure, you could have a bad fall. . . If your ladder is broken, do not climb it.

Wear clothes that fit right.

See the farmer.

See the farmer go to the mail box.

See the farmer get the little book.

The farmer can read.

The farmer can read long sentences.

The farmer knows about cows.

The farmer knows about fences.

The farmer knows about manure pits.

See the farmer read the little book.

Now the farmer knows about OSHA.
See the farmer kick the mail box.
Hear the farmer say bad words.
See the farmer throw the little book.
See the farmer throw the little book into the manure pit.

See OSHA.
See OSHA write.
See OSHA print.
See OSHA throw money into the manure pit.
Say bad words about OSHA.

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