

Ladder Safety for Agriculture

Picture This



This image clearly illustrates the serious hazards associated with improper ladder use in agricultural work. The worker is standing near the top of an extension ladder while installing insulation inside a barn. He is over-reaching far outside the ladder's side rails, causing the ladder to shift and tip on uneven dirt flooring. The worker has no spotter, no ladder stabilization, and no fall-protection measures in place—leaving him moments away from a potentially life-altering fall.

Falls from even moderate heights can result in severe head injuries, spinal trauma, fractures, or long-term disability, especially when landing on hard surfaces or around scattered tools. Many ladder accidents occur when workers attempt to carry materials, work alone, or stretch beyond the ladder's safe limits. Always ensure ladders are set on stable ground, maintain three points of contact, avoid over-reaching, and consider safer

alternatives—such as scaffolding or mobile platforms—when working at height. Proper planning and safe ladder practices are essential to prevent tragic, preventable injuries on the farm.