

COMMUNICATIONS KIT

Rural plant Code of Practice

2024



Queensland
Government

ABOUT THIS KIT



This communications kit has been created to help you and your workplace understand the Rural plant Code of Practice 2024.

In this easy-to-use kit you will find:

- key messages
- editorial copy
- social media posts for sharing.

KEY MESSAGES

The Rural plant Code of Practice 2024 commenced on 23 September 2024. The purpose of the Code is to help reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities by providing guidance on working safely with rural plant. Updates to the Code are expected to have significant positive impacts on work health and safety outcomes on Queensland farms.

The Code will also support the agricultural industry to meet its work health and safety legislative obligations.

The Code incorporates feedback from the 2021 consultation process. A wide range of stakeholders contributed valuable feedback, including workers, industry representatives, farmers, employers and health and safety experts.

The Code was updated through a Steering Group comprised of agricultural industry representatives, worker representatives, external health and safety experts and internal Office of Industrial Relations specialists. The group ensured that the Code is not only practical and accurate, but also reflects the latest in safety best practices tailored specifically for the agricultural industry in Queensland.

The updated Code incorporates the feedback of workers, key agricultural industry representative bodies and technical experts and meets the needs of the end users.

As part of the update, the Rural plant Code of Practice 2024 incorporates all tractor safety content. As tractors are rural plant and a common source of fatalities and serious injuries on farms, they are now comprehensively covered under the new Code. This means the Safe design and operation of tractors Code of Practice 2005 has been revoked and all relevant tractor content has been consolidated into the new updated Code.

Other key updates to the Code includes:

- guidance on technology including the use of drones, quad bikes and side by side vehicles
- modernised content to remove outdated information (such as references to discontinued Australian Standards) and to include new diagrams and pictures
- guidance on
 - how to consult, cooperate and coordinate activities with other duty holders
 - requirements for high risk work licences for certain plant.

EDITORIAL COPY

Safety first on the farm when operating rural plant

Rural plant is essential for modern agricultural business operations but can be dangerous. There are significant work health and safety risks associated with using rural plant in a workplace.

To improve work health and safety across Queensland's agricultural sector, the Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) has updated the Rural plant Code of Practice.

The Rural plant Code of Practice 2024 commenced on 23 September 2024. The purpose of this new Code is to help reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities by providing guidance on working safely with rural plant. Updates to the Code are expected to have significant positive impacts on work health and safety outcomes on Queensland farms.

The Code will also support the agricultural industry to meet its work health and safety legislative obligations.

The Code was updated through a Steering Group comprised of agricultural industry representatives, worker representatives, external health and safety experts and internal OIR specialists. The group ensured that the Code is not only practical and accurate, but also reflects the latest in safety best practices tailored specifically for Queensland's agricultural industry.

The updated Code incorporates the feedback of workers, key agricultural industry representative bodies and technical experts and meets the needs of the end users.

As part of the update, the Rural plant Code of Practice 2024 incorporates all tractor safety content. As tractors are rural plant and a common source of fatalities and serious injuries on farms, they are now comprehensively covered under the new Code. This means the Safe design and operation of tractors Code of Practice 2005 has been revoked and all relevant tractor content has been consolidated into the new updated Code.

EDITORIAL COPY

- Other key updates to the Code include:
 - guidance on technology including the use of drones, quad bikes and side by side vehicles
 - modernised content to remove outdated information (such as references to discontinued Australian Standards) and to include new diagrams and pictures
 - guidance on
 - how to consult, cooperate and coordinate activities with other duty holders
 - requirements for high risk work licences for certain plant.

More information

For more information about the Rural plant Code of Practice 2024 visit

<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice/rural-plant-of-practice-review> or email safe@oir.qld.gov.au.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You are welcome to use the below posts on your own channels or share one of ours!

Facebook: [@WorkSafeQueensland](#)


LinkedIn: [@Workplace Health and Safety Queensland](#)

Instagram: [@Worksafeqld](#)

YouTube: [@WorkSafeQueensland](#)



Date	Copy	Suggested asset
<p>16 August 2024</p>	<p>Tractor incidents remain a leading cause of death in Queensland’s agricultural industry. To improve tractor safety, the Rural plant Code of Practice has been updated. The code integrates vital tractor safety measures and ensure all guidance is modern and up to date.</p> <p>📌 Key improvements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚗 Tractor safety content fully integrated 📖 Guidance on how to consult, cooperate and coordinate activities with other duty holders, and requirements for high risk work licences for certain plant <p>The Rural Code of Practice 2024, effective from 23 September 2024, reflects input from diverse stakeholders including farmers and safety experts, ensuring it meets the unique needs of Queensland’s agricultural industry.</p> <p>Read the code at https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice/rural-plant-of-practice-review</p> <p>#AgricultureSafety #FarmSafety #QueenslandAgriculture #SafeFarming</p>	

Date	Copy	Suggested asset
23 Sept 2024	<p>The Rural plant Code of Practice has been updated. The updated Code commences from today.</p> <p>What's new in the Rural plant Code of Practice 2024?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚗 Comprehensive tractor safety guidelines (incorporating content from the revoked Safe design and operation of tractors Code of Practice) 📡 Guidance on the use of modern technologies like drones, quad bikes and side by side vehicles 📖 Updated content including new diagrams and crucial safety instructions <p>Stay informed and ensure your practices are up to date! For more information, visit https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice/rural-plant-of-practice-review</p> <p>#AgricultureSafety #QueenslandFarming #WorkplaceSafety #RuralPlantSafety</p>	 <p>The image shows a tractor in a field with a blue and green overlay. The text 'Rural plant Code of Practice 2024' and 'Commences from today' is displayed in white and green. The Queensland Government logo is in the bottom right corner.</p>