

## QUICK RESOURCE: HAVING GOOD SAFETY CONVERSATIONS



Farm safety conversations are a deliberate and proactive way to periodically “check in” on safety through the day. Conversations should be encouraged between everyone on farm - the owner, family workers, employees and contractors or visitors.

Try working conversations about safety into regular communication. This could be while:

- planning the day
- checking in throughout the day
- morning tea or lunch
- when something goes wrong
- when something's going well
- at the end of the day

Use the opportunity to steer the conversation proactively and deliberately towards health, safety and/or wellbeing. Ask an "open" question - one that can't be answered with just a yes or no.

### Here's some conversation starters to get you underway:

- What's the plan for today?
- What jobs have we got to do this week?
- What's different from last week?
- Who is on farm this week? Do we have contractors? What do we need to do to look after them?
- What kind of dangers do we need to consider with this work?
- How would you do this?
- What do we need to do to keep ourselves safe?
- Do we need to do this right now, or at all?
- What should we do if conditions change? What is our plan B?
- Are we up for this work today? How do we feel?
- Are we confident we know how to do this right?
- Do we know how to do this task well? Or is there another way to do this?
- Have we got the right tools and equipment for the job?
- Have we allowed enough time to do this properly?
- Why did our day go well?
- What is working well?

**Remember** this isn't about "catching out" people, but encouraging the right behaviour, practices and equipment or solving problems together. It's also a great opportunity to provide positive feedback when things are being done safely and well. Approaching conversations like this will help you to gain an insight into how safety is being managed and use the opportunity to either provide coaching, encouragement or to receive feedback.