



# Farmers4 Safety

## Managing Risk Together

Farmers4Safety – Managing Risk Together EIP-AGRI research was undertaken by project manager Niamh Nolan along with the 6-part time farm mentor's to assess farmer's attitudes and behaviours towards farm safety, health and wellbeing. Irish Rural Link (IRL) are in partnership with the BRIDE (Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment) project, the Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme, the New Futures Farming Group, and the Health and Safety Authority in carrying out this piloted project in their catchment areas. The Farm Safety EIP-AGRI adopts a peer to peer mentor approach to engage farmers in an attitudinal and behavioural change towards farm safety by tackling and improving the social norms that surround farm safety, health and wellbeing.

This survey analysis gives you a flavour of the most noteworthy survey responses to date. We have gathered 152 Pre Evaluation and Attitudinal Survey Responses from Farmers/ Farm Families, 52 Attitudinal Survey Responses from Partners, 28 Attitudinal Survey Responses from Service Providers (Vets, AI technicians, Scanners, Advisors) and 98 Post Evaluation and Attitudinal Surveys. The Post Evaluation and Attitudinal Surveys allow this Farm Safety EIP AGRI Project to gain a greater insight into Farmers/Farm Families attitudes and behaviours towards Farm Safety, Health and Wellbeing. Farmers4Safety – Managing Risk Together EIP AGRI Project has effectively engaged with 1,578 farmers to-date and in meeting with 1,578 farmers 60 subjects were mentioned when talking to the farmer's/ farm families on the ground. Each of the surveys took participants approximately 7 to 15 minutes to complete the survey. Below illustrates a flavour of some of our findings to date.



### Key Findings: Survey Responses from Farmers/Farm Families

**Our previous survey results indicate 54% regularly take time off from the farm, 40% said they rarely take time off and 6% said they never take time off from the farm. Since becoming involved in the project how often do you now take time off from the farm?**

Regularly 59.4%  
Rarely 36.5%  
Never 4.2%

**Our previous survey responses indicate that 48% said they do take risks that they would not allow anyone else to take on the farm and 52% said they do not. Since becoming involved in this project would you now take risks that you would not allow anyone else to take on the farm?**

Yes 35.8%  
No 64.2%

**Do you feel that if something like an annual/mandatory Safety Solutions/ Certificate was introduced in the agriculture sector it would reduce the number of injuries/fatalities on farms? (i.e. a mixture of theory and practical measures for example pictures/videos of the dangers/ risks on the farms, their dangers/consequences and then move on to identifying and examining the dangers on a farm and learning solutions to overcome these risks, the course would be farmer led/ bottom up approach)**

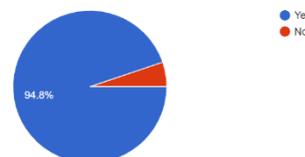
Yes 66.3%  
No 33.7%

**Was our “Farmer4Safety” initiative beneficial in raising awareness of health & safety and mental wellbeing?**

Was our “Farmer4Safety” initiative beneficial in raising awareness of health & safety and mental wellbeing? (Tick the most appropriate)

96 responses

Yes 94.8%  
No 5.2%



**From our previous survey the responses highlight that 87% do seek help when completing high-risk jobs and 13% do not. Since becoming involved in this project do you now seek help when completing high-risk jobs?**

Yes 88.2%  
No 11.8%



**Would you like to see more free mobile health check-ups such as blood testing/eye test/ heart monitoring at your local marts/co-ops?**

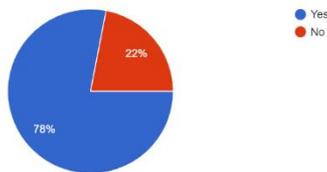
Yes 89.5%  
No 10.5%

**Do you think there is sufficient knowledge/awareness among farmer's/farm families of the problems relating to mental health in the agricultural sector?**

Very Sufficient 5.4%  
Sufficient 20.4%  
Insufficient 46.2%  
Neither nor Sufficient nor Insufficient 16.1%  
Very Insufficient 11.8%

Would you partake in an annual upskilling in health/wellbeing awareness day/night if it were available? (Tick the most appropriate)

91 responses



**Would you partake in an annual upskilling in health/wellbeing awareness day/night if it were available?**

Yes 78%  
No 22%

**Would you engage/pay into a government-led scheme that would provide holiday pay and sick pay?**

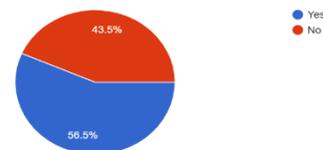
Yes 51.6%  
No 48.4%

**Are you aware of services available and what action to take to improve your mental health?**

Are you aware of services available and what action to take to improve your mental health? (Tick the most appropriate)

92 responses

Yes 56.5%  
No 43.5%



**Have you heard of any mental health training/supports that is available for farmer's/farm families?**

Yes 29.7%  
No 70.3%



**Do you feel that the current health and safety training/advice is sufficient for the running of your farm?**

Yes	47.4%
No	26.8%
Not sure	25.8%

**Are you concerned about more regulation that may be introduced in the farm safety sector to help reduce the number of fatalities/injuries on farms?**

Yes	49.5%
No	50.5%

**Do you believe that an annual farm safety, health and wellbeing training should be directly linked to receipt of direct payments?**

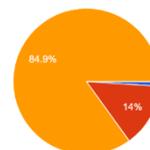
Yes	41.3%
No	58.7%

**How often has your mental health interfered with your ability to get work/ jobs done?**

Extremely Often	1.1%
Often	14%
Not often at all	84.9%

How often has your mental health interfered with your ability to get work/ jobs done?  
(Tick the most appropriate)

93 responses



- Extremely Often
- Often
- Not Often at all

