



## This week: Worker Training Requirements, Safety Equipment and Emergency Planning

### 1. Worker Training Requirements

Auditors will be looking for documentation that includes topics, source of materials and signatures of the workers for each required topic (listed below and also found in the training section of the [GAPC Certification Labor Standards](#)). If worker interviews are required for your operation, the auditor will ask questions during worker interviews to verify they have been trained.

#### Critical Standards:

Grower documents training to farm workers on the hazards and risks associated with agrochemicals, safe working practices, emergency response and health surveillance including:

- Heat stress
- Farm safety, including farm equipment safety
- Carbon monoxide poisoning prevention (if applicable)
- Pesticide safety and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Green Tobacco Sickness (GTS)
- Emergency response procedures
- Recognition of REI
- Storage, handling, application, and disposal of CPAs
- NTRM prevention

#### Additional Standards:

Grower documents training to farm workers on:

- Proper baling and market separation of tobacco
- For air-cured and fire-cured operations only, grade separation

#### GAP Connections has several resources to make training and documenting easy for growers!

1. Use our [record templates](#) to document all required training
2. Use our inspection sheets including the NTRM inspection sheet and Barn Safety inspection sheet included in our [record packets](#) for training purposes
3. Purchase Safety DVD or Tailgate Training Kits from the [GAPC Store](#)
4. Watch safety training videos on [Youtube](#)
5. Download for free the [Worker Training Guides](#) from our website (also available in the [GAPC Store](#))

### 2. Safety Equipment

Please note that personal protective equipment (PPE) will be evaluated based on availability and tasks performed by workers. For example, if workers are not mixing, handling, or spraying crop protectants, the workers would not be required to have the CPA PPE.

At time of audit, auditors will visually inspect and verify in worker interviews that proper safety equipment is being supplied.

#### Critical Standards:

- Use label required PPE by applicators/handlers/early entry workers
- Gloves and water-resistant clothing for workers working with wet tobacco
- Chemical resistant gloves for anyone handling or applying agrochemicals
- Chemical resistant aprons for anyone mixing or loading agrochemicals
- Chemical resistant footwear for anyone mixing or loading agrochemicals
- Safety glasses for workers applying or handling agrochemicals or performing jobs which can create flying objects that damage eyes such as grinding, sawing, driving nails, etc
- Hearing protecting equipment for workers operating machinery or power tools
- Dust masks for workers handling cured tobacco or operating machinery or power tools under dusty conditions

#### Additional Standards:

- Have adequately maintained farm vehicles, machinery and tools with the originally installed guards, shields or other protections as per manual/guidance provided by manufacturer or dealer of equipment
- Have adequate first aid equipment for the number of workers
  - First aid kit present and available at edge of field?
  - First aid present and available within the facility or in a vehicle within 200 feet of the facility in case of curing barns, greenhouses, market preparation areas, machinery sheds, etc whenever workers are performing work tasks there?
  - First aid kit available in vehicles used to transport workers on the farm?
- Have fire extinguishers available within 200 feet of curing barns when workers are present

### 3. Emergency and Disaster Planning

If you currently do not have a written emergency plan you can use the [record templates](#) provided by GAPC to create a written emergency plan. The factsheet will walk growers through the steps of creating an emergency plan and the templates are provided for important numbers, a farm roster and emergency plans for medical, fire and weather related emergencies. Use of our templates are not required as other formats are acceptable.

#### Critical Standards:

- Do you have a dedicated emergency contact person for all workers?
- Do you provide your workers with access to emergency medical services (EMS)?
- Do you have a written emergency plan for your workers in case of medical emergencies, fires or weather events?

#### Additional Standard:

- Do you have anyone on your farm that is certified in first aid/CPR/AED training?

### COVID-19 Resources

GAPC has compiled resources in English and Spanish to help inform, educate, and train growers, workers, and family members on topics related to COVID-19. The



resource pages provide information for planning, educating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 as well as H2-A Visa concerns and the Families First Coronavirus Reponse Act (FFCRA). Includes: training videos, posters, fact sheets, FAQ's, webinars and links to other resources. For information on a state by state level, visit the COVID-19 Resource Page by State.

[Visit COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

[Visit COVID-19 Resource Page by State](#)



Follow us on Facebook for all the latest updates!

info@gapconnections.com | 865.622.4606 | 2450 EJ Chapman Drive Knoxville TN 37996

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

2450 E.J. Chapman Drive  
Knoxville, TN | 37996 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.