



For more information...

If you're interested in purchasing a eye protection, check with your local farm supply store, a direct-mail catalog, or AgriSafe Clinic.

For more information about eye protection, contact the North Carolina Agromedicine Institute:

North Carolina Agromedicine Institute
East Carolina University
West Research Campus
106 West Academic Building
Greenville, North Carolina 27858
Phone: 252.744.1000
Fax: 252.744.1009
Website: www.ncagromedicine.org

Unexpected eye injuries can occur:

- from particles of rocks, soil, crop material or other foreign objects thrown from farm equipment that chops or grinds
- more often when servicing than operating farm equipment
- even when using simple hand tools

Protect them by:

- keeping machinery properly shielded
- keeping operator & bystanders away from machinery discharge paths
- wearing industrial strength eye protection



Eye Protection for Farmers

Prevent Eye Damage with Our Help



Protective Eyewear Should Be:

- carefully selected, fitted and cleaned;
- reasonably comfortable and fit snugly without interfering with the movements or vision of the wearer;
- durable, easily cleaned and capable of being disinfected;
- kept clean and in good repair;
- stored in clean, dust-proof containers.

Hazard	Choose
flying particles & objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industrial rated glasses or sunglasses • flexible or cushion-fitted ventilated plastic goggles that fit over ordinary eye glasses
agricultural chemicals*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • splash goggles*
intense light & sparks (welding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • welding goggles

* Always read the chemical label to determine what type of eye protection & other personal protective equipment is recommended by the manufacturer.

Never wear contact lenses when handling ammonia or other farm chemicals.



Safety Glasses

Standard eyeglasses and sunglasses provide frontal protection only. If you wear glasses, make sure they have impact resistant lenses. Safety glasses have heavier lenses that can withstand more shock than ordinary lenses.



Goggles

Plastic goggles protect the eyes against front and side impact.

Unvented or chemical splash goggles also offer protection against chemical vapours and liquids.

Always wear goggles when striking hardened metal tools and hardened metal surfaces. This will protect the eyes against flying metal chips.



Face Shields

Face shields protect the face against splashing, dust, and chaff. However, standard designs offer very little protection against impact.

If impact protection is needed, wear safety glasses or goggles under the face shield. Special impact-resistant shields are also available.



Basic First Aid

Proper first aid for eye injuries is critical! The method of first aid needed depends upon the type of injury sustained:

SPECKS OR PARTICLES

- Let natural tears wash specks or particles out of the eye.
- If possible, try not to rub the eyes.
- If specks or particles don't wash out, see a physician.

BLOWS TO THE EYE

- Apply cold compresses for 15 minutes and again each hour as needed to reduce pain and swelling.
- If the blow was hard enough to cause discoloration, see a physician. Internal damage could have occurred.

CUTS AND PUNCTURES TO THE EYE

- Do Not do anything to the eye.
- Bandage it lightly.
- See a physician at once.

CHEMICAL BURNS on the eyes can be minor to very serious.

- Fresh water should be available for irrigating eyes anywhere chemicals are used.
- If the eye comes in contact with any chemical, it should be continuously flooded with water for at least 15 minutes.
- Do Not put anything else in the eye.
- See a physician and take the label of the chemical involved.