

HAY SAFETY

Checklist

Talk to your team and family about safety

1. Pre-Arrival Communication

- Confirm delivery details with truck driver.
- Provide site instructions.
- Ensure driver understands site OH&S requirements.

2. Truck Arrival & Positioning

- Ensure truck parks on level ground in the designated area.
- Identify exclusion and high-risk zones around unloading area.
- Communicate unloading plan clearly with the driver.
- Correct any unsafe actions immediately.

3. Unloading Safety

- Mark out exclusion zone (all areas where machinery operates).
- Mark out high-risk zone (areas exposed to falling bales).
- Ensure only authorised personnel are in exclusion zone.
- Walk around the trailer to check bales and load stability before releasing straps.
- Moisture test all bales (maximum 18% moisture) and segregate any high-moisture bales.
- Undo straps carefully; roll them up after unloading.

4. Machinery & Operator Safety

- Inspect machinery before use: tyres, windows, fuel, safety lights, hay forks.
- Only the operator should be inside the exclusion zone during unloading.
- Maintain 360° awareness of surroundings at all times.
- Align bales correctly on hay forks before moving to stack.
- Do not exceed safe hay fork height.

5. Stacking Hay

- Clear obstacles (shed beams, machinery, other hay stacks).
- Ensure stable and level ground for stacking.
- Use bricked and stepped stacking for stability.
- Place soft or unstable bales on top or aside, never at the bottom.
- Avoid over-stacking to prevent bales from falling.
- Keep clear access paths to stacks.

6. Post-Unloading

- Roll up straps after unloading.
- Sweep trailer of leftover hay to prevent road hazards.
- Give final departure instructions to the truck driver.
- Review the unloading and stacking process with your team to identify improvements.



For Hay Safety videos, training, posters & more ...

SCAN HERE



www.feedcentral.com.au/hay-safety-day/

Don't leave safety to chance.
Use this checklist and explore more
Feed Central hay safety resources online,
because safe hay is good hay!