



# FARM SAFETY CHECK

## Silage Storage Safety Checklist: Silos

Silage is vital to the cattle industries. However, silos have unique hazards, like silo gas, dusts that may contain mold, falls, and more. During the silo fermentation process lethal gases are produced. This is especially dangerous in confined areas. Take precaution during crop production, during ensiling, and when working with silage to keep everyone on the farm safe.

You and/or your employee(s) can use this form to complete safety checks on your farm. Use the form below to list additional safety checks you think are important when inspecting your farm. Keep the completed forms for follow-up, future reference and inspections. Additional copies of this form can be downloaded at:

<http://umash.umn.edu/umash-farm-safety-check/>

Potential Hazard	Yes	Needs Correction	Date Corrected or Notes
Are you scheduling a team meeting to talk about potential safety hazards? Make sure everyone understands their roles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there signs or markings to manage traffic in the area of the silo while unloading?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do silage harvest teammates remain in their tractor/truck and wear safety vests with high visibility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you conscious of timing when you're entering a silo? Silage gas is elevated for up to 10 days after filling.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you using the buddy system when working around a silo so that you are not working alone?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Before entering a silo, are you practicing Lockout/Tagout to disable machinery and prevent the release of hazardous energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you ventilating whenever working in and around the silo? Keep doors to animals closed, use power ventilation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when making an emergency entrance into a silo? The only method for this gas is a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the storage area marked with signage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is everyone trained on symptoms and how to prevent silage gas exposure, with an emergency plan in place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Name of person completing safety check: \_\_\_\_\_ Date completed: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**



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Additional Hazards	Yes	Needs Correction	Date Corrected or Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### **Control of Hazardous Energy for lockout/tag out**

*U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhcSAgKY3cs>

### **Silage Safety**

*Kansas State University Beef*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cdTOBDhVCUg>

### **Corn Silage: Part 4 Feed Out Safety**

*University of Wisconsin-Extension*

<https://fyi.uwex.edu/agpodcasts/2016/09/08/corn-silage-part-4-feed-out-safety/>

### **Silo Gas and Silo-Filler's Disease**

*University of Wisconsin-Extension*

<https://fyi.uwex.edu/agsafety/files/2012/07/Silo-Gas-7.27.12-final1.pdf>

### **Silo Gases - The Hidden Danger**

*PennState Extension*

<https://extension.psu.edu/silo-gases-the-hidden-danger>

### **NASD: Watch Out For Silage Gas!**

*University of Wisconsin-Extension*

[http://nasdonline.org/static\\_content/documents/901/d000741.pdf](http://nasdonline.org/static_content/documents/901/d000741.pdf)

*The facts and information provided are suggestions for your safety, but are in no way a comprehensive and exhaustive list of all actions needed to ensure your safety, and are not an endorsement of any products mentioned.*

For additional Farm Safety Check topics and resources, visit: <http://umash.umn.edu/umash-farm-safety-check/>

**To receive Farm Safety Check topics via email, join the UMASH email list at <http://umash.umn.edu/join-our-email-list>**

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