



Family Guide

Thank you for your interest in the AgTeen project.

University of Georgia researchers are seeking Georgia farm families to find effective ways to keep youth safe on the farm. Your time and contribution will be extremely valuable to aide researchers around the world to find ways to address this important issue.

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Why the Study is Needed

Farming is one of the most deadly jobs in the United States. For young workers, it accounted for 42 percent of all work-related deaths between 1992 and 2000, according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. More than 100 children are killed and 26,000 seriously injured in U.S. farm related accidents each year.

Injury and death rates in the Southern region of the U.S. are particularly high. Forty percent of farm youth fatalities and thirty percent of youth injuries reported nationwide are in this region. Research is needed to find effective ways to decrease these numbers.



Fatal Farm Injuries

1982-1996 10-19 Years
Top 5 States in Southern Region

Texas (121)
North Carolina (62)
Mississippi (56)
Kentucky (56)
Georgia (51)

About the AgTeen Study

AgTeen is a three year research study that will be conducted by researchers at the University of Georgia (UGA). Two colleges at UGA will be working together on the study: The Institute on Human Development and Disability in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences and the Department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The AgTeen study is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

To date, a lot of work has been done focusing on training youth on farm safety topics. However, very little research has been done to examine the effect of youth and their parents working together on farm safety education. The AgTeen study will be looking at this important family dynamic.

AgTeen will be working closely with approximately 200 farm families in the State of Georgia to look at what is and is not effective in preventing accidents.

Families will be asked to participate for a full year (12 months). It is important that both parents and all children between the ages of 10 and 19 participate in all of the study activities.

About the AgTeen Study - Qualification

To qualify for the study, the primary criteria are as follows:

1. Own a farm that is 100 or more acres and is located in Georgia.
2. The family has at least one child between the ages of 10 and 19 that either:
 - Resides on the farm
 - Resides at another location but has parents who are actively involved in managing the farm, as long as the farm is owned and operated by the parent's extended family.
3. There is both a male and female head of household that agree to participate in the study.

Exclusion Criteria:

- The farm has no children or all children are under 10 or over age 19.
- The only children on the farm are employees.
- The family lives on an eligible farm, but the actual work of farming is either done by hired labor or the land is leased to someone else to farm.
- The family does not have legal custody of the children and therefore are not able to provide informed consent.

Family Groups

A research study usually assigns the people participating into different groups. These groups often do different activities. This is done to measure if a particular activity is effective.

The AgTeen study will divide families into one of three groups. Families are randomly assigned to a group once they are accepted into the study and their consent forms are returned.

The three AgTeen groups are as follows:



Parent Interactive - Families assigned to this group will have three farm safety lessons that are taught by both parents. AgTeen staff will provide the training materials, including interactive safety models, for the parents to use. Staff members will be present to gather information from the family at the end of the lesson.



Staff Interactive - Families assigned to this group will have three safety lesson taught by an AgTeen staff member. Staff members will gather information from the family at the end of lesson.



Control Group - Families in this group will not have any safety lessons during the study time period. However, AgTeen staff members will gather information from them during the study period. At the end of the study, families in this group will be provided all of the safety training materials.

What Families Will Do and When



For most families selected to participate, basic activities and time commitments would be estimated as follows:



What: **Group Meetings**
When: January and December
Where: Tifton, GA

A fun day where all families will come together at the beginning and end of the study. The parents and youth 10-19 years will attend sessions about their roles with the project. Day care will be provided for younger children. The meeting will take approximately 4 hours.



What: **Home Safety Lessons**
When: February, April and August
Where: The Family's Home

In the family's home, a lesson on a farm safety topic will be taught. This will take approximately one or two hours and will be scheduled at a time convenient for the family.



What: **Video Follow-up Lesson**
When: March, May and September
Where: The Family's Home

Each family has activities to do together on their farm in relation to the home lesson. The lesson will take approximately one hour to complete. A video cassette will be mailed back to UGA.

Compensation

Families will receive a total of \$390 for 14 to 17 hours of their time. Payments will be distributed through out the 12 month period, with the largest payment at the end. Families in all three groups will receive the same payments.

In addition to the financial payment, families will receive a video camera that will be used as part of the study activities. Families will also receive an AgTeen Safety Training Kit.

Payment After:	When	Amount
Initial Group Meeting	January	\$ 25.00
1st Home Lesson	February	35.00
1st Video Lesson	March	10.00
2nd Home Lesson	April	45.00
2nd Video Lesson	May	10.00
3rd Home Lesson	August	55.00
3rd Video Lesson	September	10.00
Final Group Meeting	December	200.00



How to Sign Up for the Study



Talk to your family and determine if:

- Both parents will actively participate
- All children between the ages of 10 and 19 will actively participate



Call **1-877-524-6264** to see if you qualify. An AgTeen staff member will ask you a series of questions that will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes. You will find out in a few days if your family qualifies for the study.



If your family qualifies, you will need to sign and return the consent form.



Plan on attending critical meetings for the study. There will be a kick-off meeting in January and a final meeting in December. You will be told the dates the meetings once you are signed up for the study. The home safety lessons will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for you.

Where to Find More Information



WEB

Find out more information by going to www.agteen.com. You can also chat live with a staff member on the web site.

E-mail

E-mail us info@agteen.com

Write

Write to us at:

The University of Georgia
AgTeen
Institute on Human Development and Disability
850 College Station Road
Athens, GA 30605-2718

Call

Call toll-free at [1-877-524-6264](tel:1-877-524-6264)

Fax

Fax us toll-free at [1-866-554-0286](tel:1-866-554-0286)



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