

Safety Color Code for Marking Physical Hazards -- OSHA Standard 1910.144 ¹

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The Impact of Safety on Florida Agriculture

Florida agriculture, including forestry and seafood, made an annual economic impact of \$53 billion in 1998. More than 81,000 people work on the 40,000 farms in the state, and more than 50,000 are employed in other activities related to agriculture. The state's agricultural enterprises range from large citrus, vegetable and cattle operations to small family-operated farms.

From 1989 to 1998, there were approximately 240 deaths related to agriculture in Florida, according to data compiled by the Deep South Center for Agricultural Health and Safety. In addition, agriculture has one of the highest injury and death rates among U.S. industries.

Safety in Florida agriculture is challenging because:

- the state's agricultural enterprises are diverse,

- safety knowledge among workers varies,
- manual labor is used extensively,
- the climate creates year-round heat stress.

Therefore, it is vital to assist the public in learning about OSHA documents related to agriculture. More related information is available at the following Web sites:

Florida AgSafe: <<http://www.flagsafe.ufl.edu>>

OSHA Regulations:

<<http://www.osha.gov/comp-links.html>>

Overview

This document, a condensation of Section 1910.144 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (29 CFR), is not intended to be totally inclusive but rather to highlight the information and requirements in the complete OSHA standard that owners and managers of agricultural businesses should understand. Refer to the OSHA Web site given above

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for the complete standard and for court interpretations of the standard.

Section 1910.144(a) -- Color Identification

1910.144(a)(1) -- Red. Red shall be the basic color for the identification of:

(i) -- Fire protection equipment and apparatus.
[Reserved]

(ii) -- Danger. Safety cans or other portable containers of flammable liquids having a flash point at or below 80 deg. F, table containers of flammable liquids (open cup tester), excluding shipping containers, shall be painted red with some additional clearly visible identification either in the form of a yellow band around the can or the name of the contents conspicuously stenciled or painted on the can in yellow. Red lights shall be provided at barricades and at temporary obstructions, as specified in ANSI Safety Code for Building Construction, A10.2-1944, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6. Danger signs shall be painted red.

(iii) -- Stop. Emergency stop bars on hazardous machines such as rubber mills, wire blocks, flat work ironers, etc., shall be red. Stop buttons or electrical switches on which letters or other markings appear, used for emergency stopping of machinery, shall be red.

1910.144(a)(2) -- [Reserved]

1910.144(a)(3) -- Yellow. Yellow shall be the basic color for designating caution and for marking physical hazards such as: Striking against, stumbling, falling, tripping, and "caught in between."

Note: Some sections of OSHA standards are labeled "Reserved." This label implies either that information has been deleted from the previous version of the standard or that additions to the standard are anticipated. Because standards often reference other standards, it is important that paragraph numbers remain consistent.