

MEMBERS' BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLES

SVLFG

Successful prevention work: Fewer accidents at work, fewer accidental deaths

The Social Insurance for Agriculture, Forestry and Horticulture (SVLFG) was able to report a decrease in occupational accidents for the year 2020. The number of fatal accidents at work fell to its lowest level in years.

This is shown in the accident statistics of the SVLFG. Thus, with a total of 64,060 reportable accidents, six percent fewer occurred in 2020 than in the previous year (2019: 68,064). With 113 accident fatalities, the SVLFG recorded the lowest level in the last five years (2019: 132).

During Animal owners very much at risk

Even though the number of accident victims in the field of animal husbandry has actually decreased by 8.3 per cent, the handling of large livestock remains the greatest source of danger in agriculture. 14,781 accidents with an inability to work for more than three days in the field of animal husbandry (2019: 16,127), 15 of which were fatal (2019: 21), were reported to the SVLFG in 2020. Due to these high accident figures, an amended version of the regulations for safety and health protection (VSG) 4.1 "Animal husbandry" came into force on 1 April 2021, which is intended to protect animal keepers even better.

Relaxation in the forest

For the first time since the SVLFG was founded, the number of reportable forestry accidents fell to below 5,000 with 4,834 (2019: 5,257). 26 insured persons died due to injuries during forest work (2019: 36). The SVLFG prevention experts see possible reasons for the positive development in the

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increased use of technology on the large damaged wood areas as well as in the prevention activities within the industry that raise awareness everywhere.

More accidents in horticulture and landscape maintenance work

Contrary to the general trend, the sector of horticultural and landscape maintenance work recorded more occupational and road accidents than in the previous year. 13,404 people were involved in accidents during these works or on the way to them (2019: 12,740), eight of them fatal (2019: six). The increased incidence of accidents at gardening and landscaping sites corresponds with the peak in gardening and landscaping orders during the Corona pandemic.

Occupational diseases: Skin diseases still in first place

For 2020, the SVLFG statistics show 4,666 reports of suspected occupational diseases (2019: 4,942). 2,552 of these concern skin diseases (2019: 2,806). They are by far the most frequently reported diseases.

Decrease in new accident pensions

A positive development is the decrease in newly approved accident pensions to 1,384 (2019: 1,517). This is nine percent less than in the previous year. This shows that the accidents were less likely to have a severe course with permanent accident consequences than in the previous year - a trend that can be traced back since 2016.

ENASP