

# Which Respirator is Right for the Farm Work You Do?

Do you have any respiratory exposures?  
Examples: Working with hogs, cattle, dairy, poultry, grain, tobacco, cotton, pesticides, chemicals, silos and welding

## Consider Your Exposures

Most farm activities put you at risk for some type of respiratory exposure causing a need for respiratory protection.

Are you exposed to dust/aerosols?

Grain, Hay, Hogs, Pesticides (solids) Poultry, Mold, Grain Dust

Use one of the following:

- Two Strap Respirator
- Cartridge with P100 Filters
- Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)



Are you exposed to chemicals/fumes?

Pesticides or Paint (Organic Vapors), Ammonia, Disinfectants, Bleach (Acid Gas)

Use one of the following:

- Half Mask Cartridge Respirator
- Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)



Do you work in an oxygen limiting environment\*?

Livestock and Poultry Confinement  
Grain Handling, Fumigation,  
Manure Pits, Hydrogen Sulfide, Silo

Use one of the following:

- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Supplied Air Respirators



\*An oxygen limiting environment would be considered a confined space where there would not be enough oxygen to support life.

## Recommendations and Resources

Fit Testing - choosing the right respirator with the right fit is essential to having adequate protection. Cartridge respirators should be fit tested and fit checked with each use. To find out more information about proper fit contact AgriSafe Network. [www.agrisafe.org](http://www.agrisafe.org)

**If you have a medical condition that would prohibit you from wearing a respirator consult a health care provider.**

Example: heart conditions, lung conditions such as asthma or emphysema, uncontrolled hypertension or claustrophobia