

Working in danish farming – safety in the daily work

Bornholms Landbrug & Fødevarer, November 4th, 2022

Projekt: Fokus på arbejdsmiljø i landbruget

STØTTET AF
Promilleafgiftsfonden for landbrug

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Short view of the topics

- ▶ Overall workplace safety system in Denmark
- ▶ Major topics in health and safety
 - ▶ Safe handling of animals
 - ▶ Avoiding wear and tear of the body
 - ▶ Risk of chemical damage
 - ▶ Cooperation and communication at the workplace

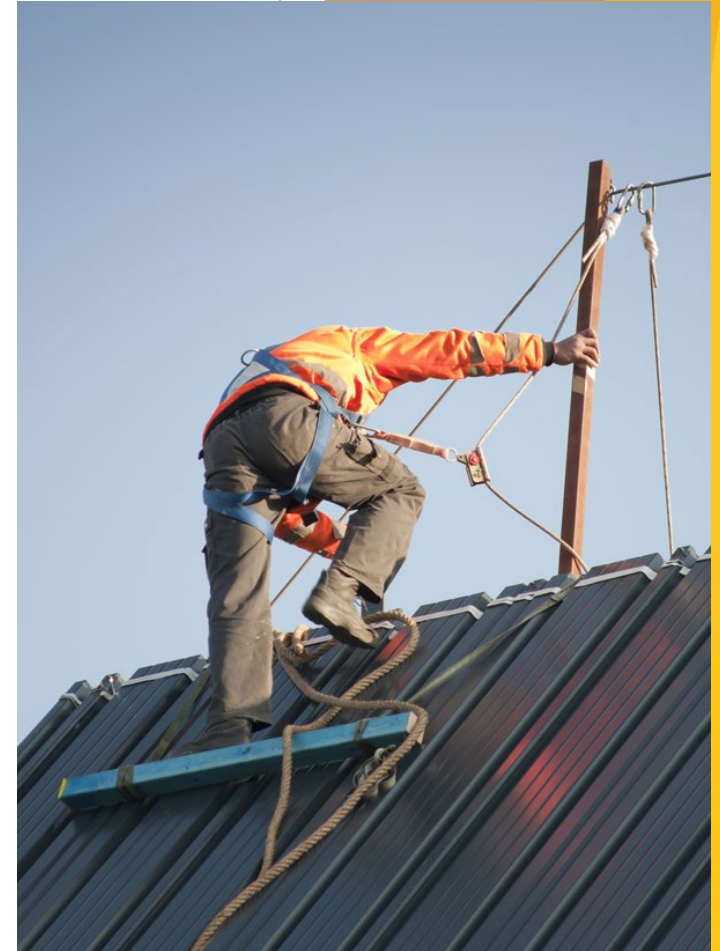


Who am I

Mrs. Marianne Norup

Physiotherapist and platoon leader in the Danish
Emergency Management Agency

- ▶ Inspector at Arbejdstilsynet, National authority on OHS, 12 years
- ▶ Specialist at SEGES Innovation in OHS and health promotion, 5 years



Workplace safety in Denmark

- ▶ Health and safety is secured by law in ALL DANISH WORKPLACES
- ▶ Government work together with **employer organisations** and **labour unions** to make the laws and guidelines to prevent accidents and the tear of body and mind at work.
- ▶ “**Arbejdstilsynet**” has the authority to make sure each company will follow the rules and standards. Assisted by the police and legal system if necessary.
- ▶ **Advisors**, as well as organisations and unions, give information and counselling to both individuals, leaders and employees, and to company management.

Generally speaking

- ▶ Agriculture was historically excepted from some rules, but this has no practical influence on your work conditions today
- ▶ Smaller businesses are usually less aware of safety than bigger companies
 - ▶ There are many exceptions to this rule
 - ▶ A small business safety culture will be very dependent on the mindset of the owner
- ▶ All farms in Denmark follow the basic rules - most of the time
- ▶ Working with animals and big machines demands constant awareness of safety and a good sense of detecting the risk of injury - BEFORE it happens...

Handling of animals

- ▶ Cows and sows
- ▶ bulls and boars

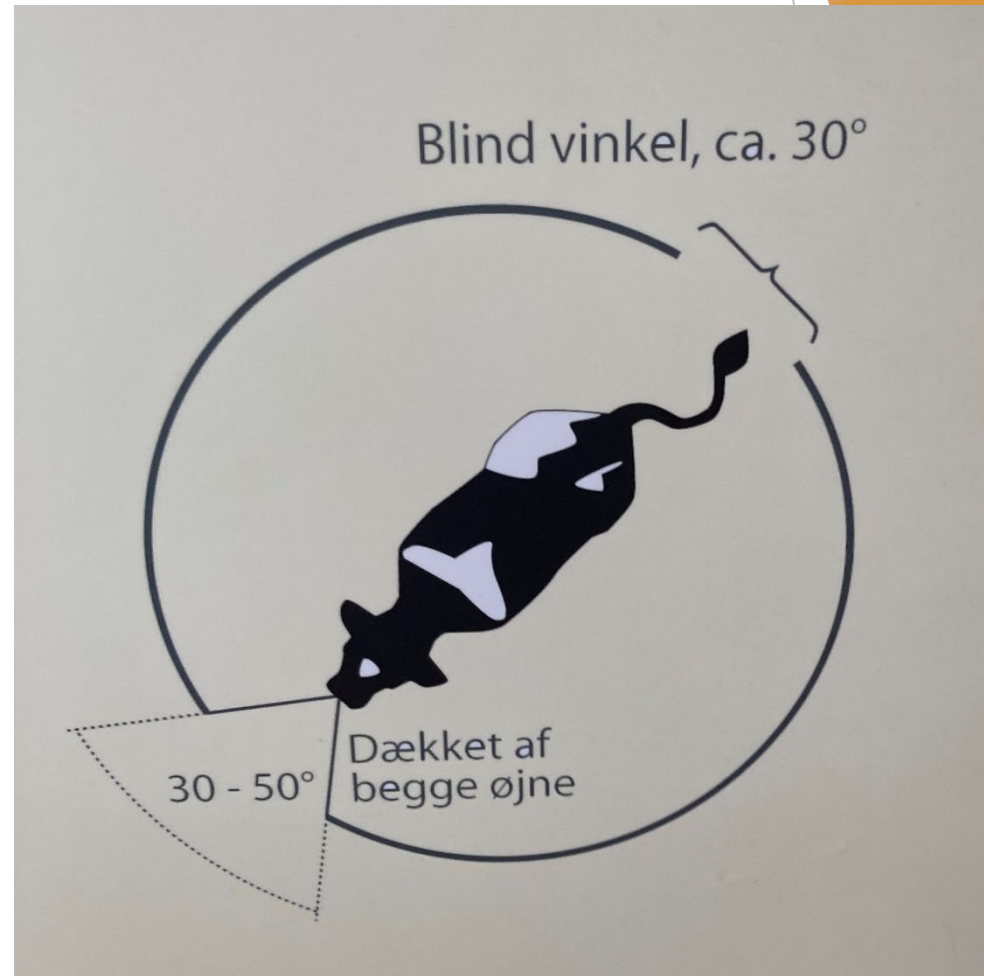
- ▶ Stockmanship
 - being able to read the animals

- ▶ Heffers - do not expect to know them

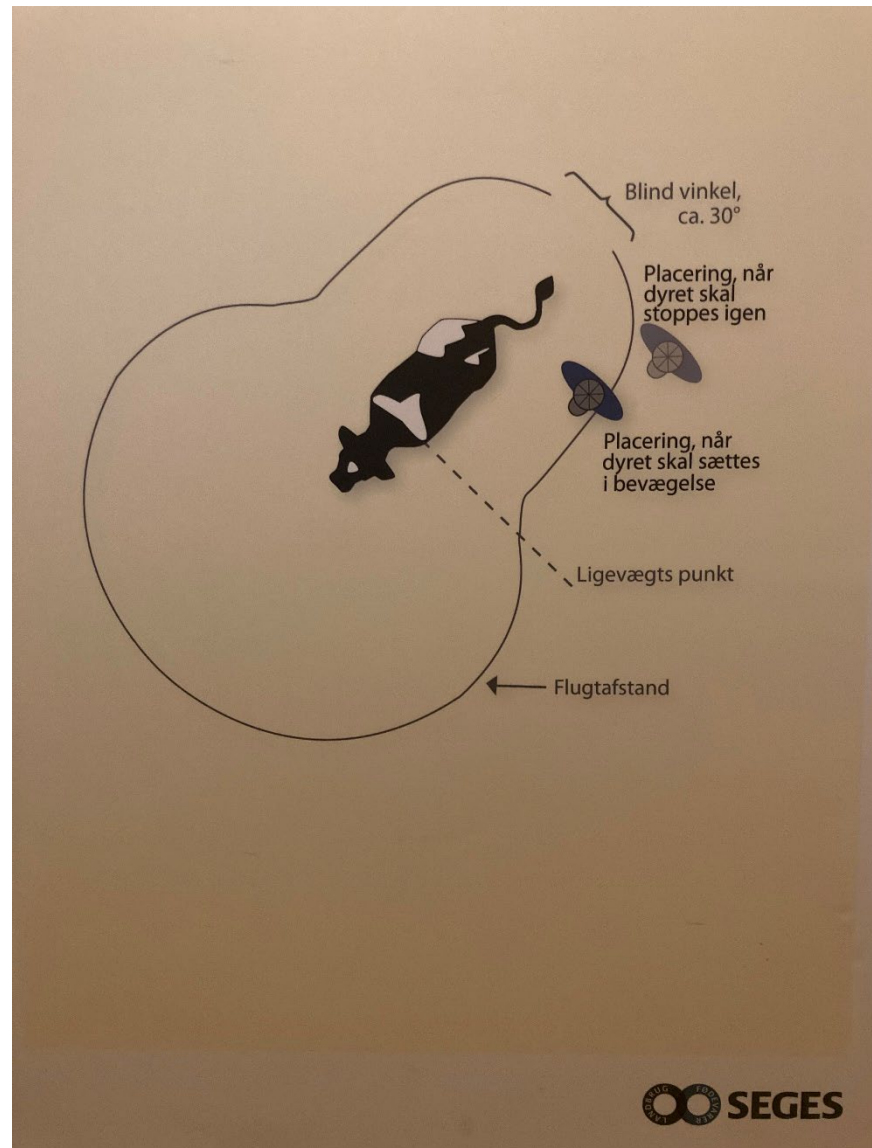
- ▶ Beware: Even calves and piglets have their risks of injury, when handled!



Safe handling with pressure and release methods



Forward movement - how to use pressure/release



Neck, shoulders and lower back pain

- ▶ Milking and treating piglets: Continuous tasks - one-sided stressful work
 - ▶ Make sure to use facilities e.g. moving floor in the milking parlour
 - ▶ Learn from experienced colleagues
 - ▶ Do exercises in breaks and use your body in your spare time



PPE - personal protection equipment

- ▶ Your lungs, eyes, ears and skin
- ▶ Not an option, it is **mandatory**
- ▶ Make sure to clean and change the filters + new supplies
- ▶ Telling others to use PPE
 - ▶ is interfering?
 - ▶ is a way to be friendly?



A little helper that saves lives

- ▶ Detecting sulfur dioxide (H_2S) in the air when working with manure and slurry - **NOT a PPE**
- ▶ **To be used in daily routines** such as letting out the slurry
- ▶ Tasks demanding stirring the slurry, e.g. cleaning tanks or canals with water: **Use fullface mask and air supply**



Telling - is preventing that more things go wrong

- ▶ The Emperor's New Clothes - Hans Christian Andersen
 - ▶ Reveiling the mistakes of the elite
 - ▶ But also helping the community to move forward and learn from mistakes
 - ▶ The messenger is just an innocent child in the crowd
- ▶ Trust is a key word
 - ▶ Growing a healthy business
 - ▶ Making everyone do their best and cooperate

How to train trust:
Be brave - look for the *positive*
way to understand the message

Examples?

a mistake happened - you made a mistake - an aggressive animal

Cooperation

Discussion: Will you be able to work with everyone?
Why is this important to your employer?

- ▶ Focusing on the task - not the person
 - ▶ when given instructions
 - ▶ When reporting the results
 - ▶ When cooperating with colleagues

Questions?

Take care!

- ▶ I *want* to see you in the statistics, *if* something goes wrong and you get injured
 - But I *don't want* to see you in the statistics...!

Thank you for listening

Day 2

- ▶ Workplace culture in Danish agriculture
- ▶ Practical challenges
 - Which challenges do you think are the most important to address?

For next time

- Young man does not wear PPE
 - It is not cool
 - Does not want to slow down the work
- What should the colleagues do?
- What should the boss/manager do?