

Eddie Behrends

I thoroughly agree that heat stroke or heat related issues are no joke. However, putting so many and such detailed regulations simply will not always work in the agricultural field. Common sense is the best way to insure that people are taken care of and that minimal heat-related issues will arise. We in the agricultural industry do not always get to choose when we go out to work or what conditions we go out in. Preparation of proper clothing (PPE) and the availability of fluids as well as knowing when to stop for a break (if possible) are centuries-old practices out on the farm/ranch. Also, limiting the outside work to cooler hours during hot periods has been widely adopted by many. Again, I understand the risks of heat related issues and the need for practical solutions to combat them but passing down a series of detailed and quite frankly, unattainable (in most cases) regulations is not the answer. Most employers would do all possible to take care of their employees or the employees will look for something better. I would think many already have guidelines or directives concerning working in potential dangerous heat conditions. I know there are lot more risks than just heat stroke when I step out to work on my farm/ranch. Too much regulation...