

# Accidents in Danish Agriculture and initiatives

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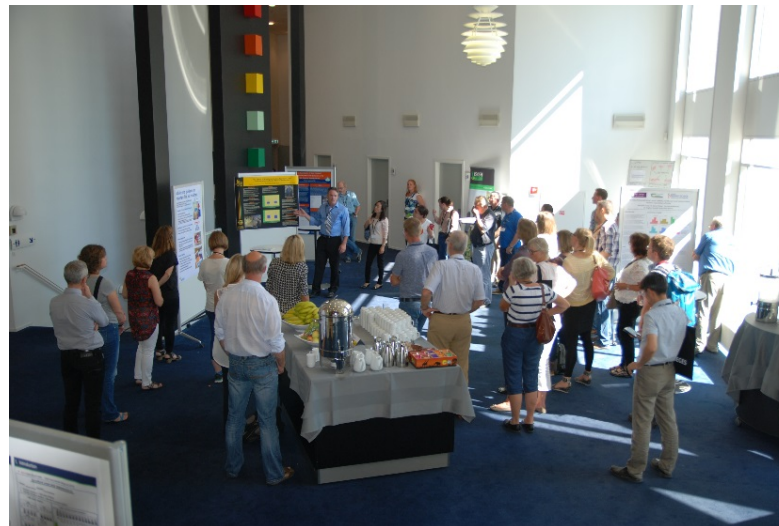
SEGES

Noget at leve af. Noget at leve for.





# Flashback... and thanks to Norway for organising the conference this time ☺





# Thoughts that came up when preparing this presentation



## **Progress**

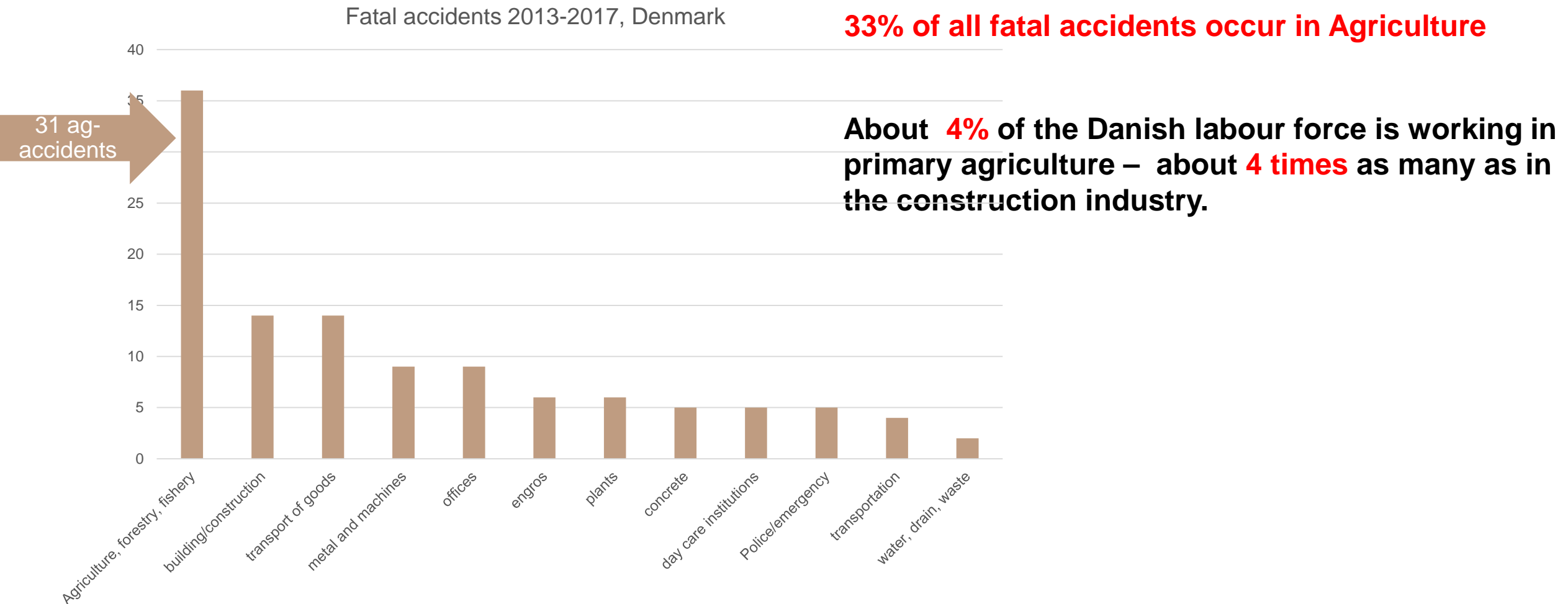
- Look and listen carefully and you will find progress – some times small pieces of gold other times actually even a huge diamant.



# Fatal accidents 2013-2017, Denmark

## – Agriculture is still the most dangerous workplace

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# Amount of fatal, serious and other accidents in agriculture, 2012-2016

40-80% are probably never reported....

Alvorlighed	Statistics from public authorities	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	I alt
1 Dødsulykker	Fatal accidents	6	10	3	3	10	32
2 Alvorlige arbejdsulykker (=> 3 uger)	Serious accidents (> 3 weeks of absence)	271	281	255	242	289	1.338
3 Øvrige arbejdsulykker (< 3 uger)	Other accidents (< 3 weeks of absence)	258	265	295	291	289	1.398
I alt		535	556	553	536	588	2.768

2018 – 3 for now....

**May:** dairy farmer, 45 years old, 3 children  
A farmer tried to remove an old slurry tank. Concrete elements fell over the farmer and his arm got stuck. Slurry ran out and he drowned in the slurry. About 50 cm of slurry in the tank – but enough for a **drowning accident**.

**June:** 36 year old employee  
Got squeezed between a tractor and another machine.

**June:** 2 year old boy drowned in a well.

2017 – 5 fatal accidents

Age: 60, 25,....



**There is an over-representation of young people in serious and other accidents.**

**There is an over-representation of older people in fatal accidents.**

Tabel 6: Anmeldte arbejdsulykker 2012-2016 inden for landbruget fordelt på skadelidtes alder og skadens følger (alvor)

Alder	1 Døds-ulykker	2 Alvorlige arbejdsulykker (=> 3 uger)	3 Øvrige arbejdsulykker (< 3 uger)	I alt
0 - 17 år	1	40	49	90
18 - 24 år	1	265	335	601
25 - 29 år		194	183	377
30 - 34 år	1	157	164	322
35 - 39 år	2	114	135	251
40 - 44 år	4	101	115	220
45 - 49 år	3	121	124	248
50 - 54 år	4	96	132	232
55 - 59 år	3	109	65	177
60 - 64 år	2	44	45	91
65 + år	11	72	22	105
Alder uoplyst		25	29	54
I alt	32	1.338	1.398	2.768

**Safety culture amongst young people needs to improve**

**More and improved education at schools**

**Role models at the farms are important (owner, farm manager)**

**Information and instructions**

skadelidte mellem 18 og 29 år. Aldersgruppen 18-24 år alene udgør 25 % af ulykkerne.

En tredjedel af dødsulykkerne vedrører personer over 65 år.



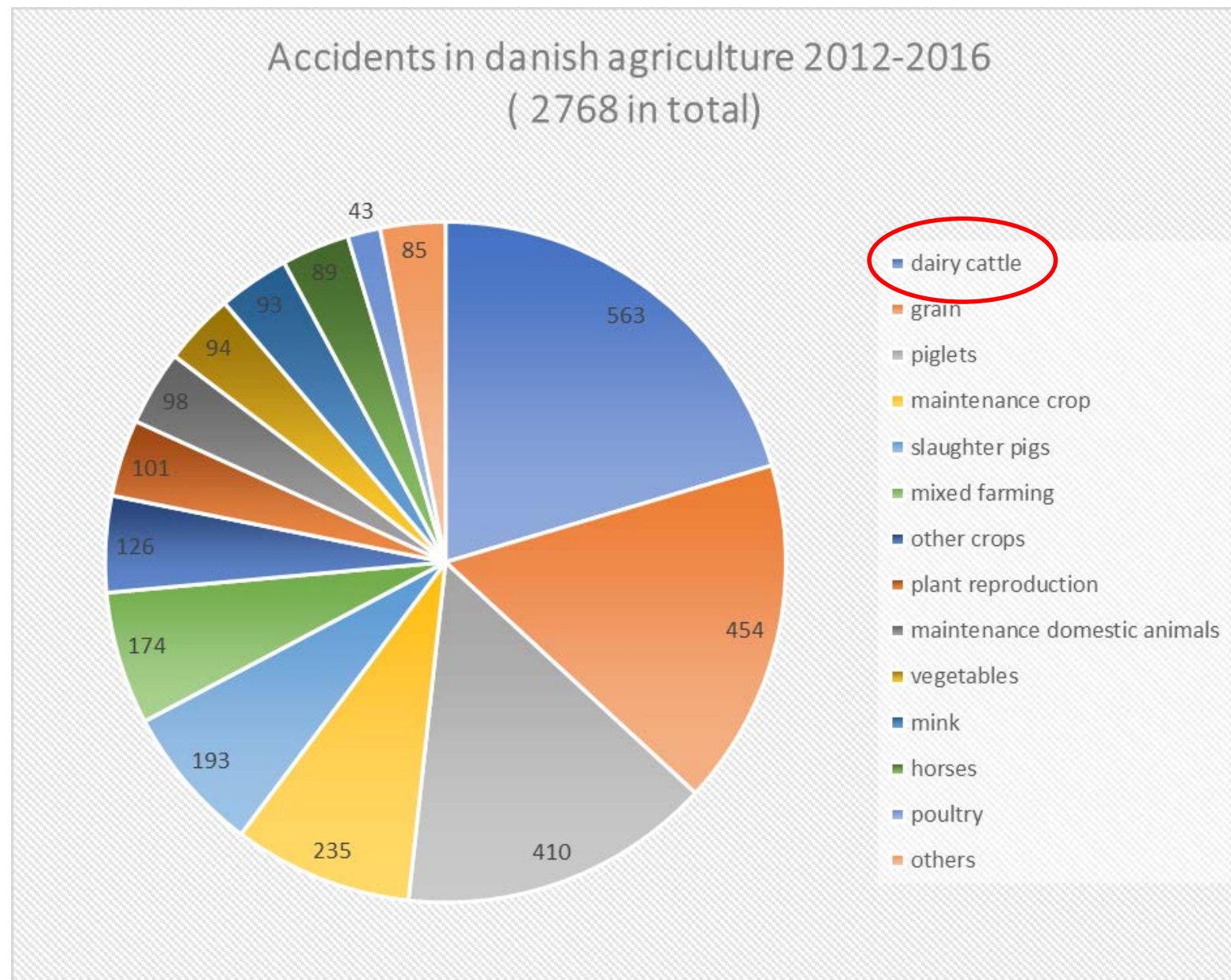


# Overview of all reported accidents in agriculture

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~ 20% of all accidents in agriculture occur at dairy farms

- Many employees
- Close contact with huge animals
- Milking day and night
- Foreign workers (culture/language challenge)
- All kinds of tasks...



# The most frequent and serious accidents occur in below situations

- > 3 weeks of absence
- Amputation
- Broken bones

- Handling big animals (cattles and pigs)
- Working with machineries
- Slip, trip and falls (in level and heights)

## In Dairy farms

- 42 % of serious accidents occur when handling cattle
- 19 % of serious accidents occur when working with machinery
- 13 % of serious accidents are due to falls from heights

### EXAMPLES OF ACCIDENTS



A farmer is herding a cow forward. The cow becomes nervous and tries to escape. The farmer attempts to stop the cow but the cow continues and knocks the farmer over. The farmer is pushed backwards, falls and strikes his head against the concrete floor. He is knocked unconscious.

An employee enters a calving pen to attend to a newborn calf and is attacked by the mother. The employee is pressed against the framework of the pen and the cow butts against her back and pelvis.

An employee attempts to remove accumulated grass by hand from a forage harvester. Because of darkness, the employee does not observe that the cylinder blade is still slowly rotating. The left ring finger is sliced almost completely across.

A farmer is uncoupling a stock trailer from the tractor. The parking stand snaps and the trailer falls onto the farmer's foot.

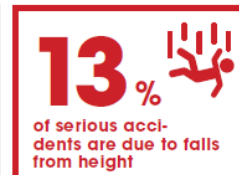
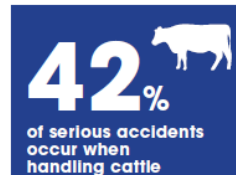
A farmer climbs onto the roof of the machine house to replace some roof tiles. The farmer loses his balance and falls through the roof.

An employee is descending a ladder. The employee's foot slips on the last step. He tries to recover but falls instead onto his arm.



### ACCIDENTS AT DAIRY FARMS

Agriculture is one of the industries where most serious work accidents occur. These accidents typically result in broken arms and legs, concussion and crushed hands. Unfortunately, there are also many fatal accidents in the agriculture sector.



Since 2012, there has been an increase in the number of accidents that occur when handling cattle. Over half the accidents involving animals happen to employees aged 16 to 29.

### 3 WEEKS OR MORE!

That's how much absence results from serious accidents at work.

Read more at [at.dk/ulykker-i-landbruget](http://at.dk/ulykker-i-landbruget)



# Fatal accidents

- A bit different when it comes to less serious accidents

## 1: Machinery

run over, reverse accidents, service, rotating parts, squeezed between machines

## 2: Working in heights

silo, ceiling, roofs

## 3: Handling big bales

500 kg



# SEGES initiatives

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- Dissemination – conferences, exhibitions, livestock shows, factsheets, newsletters, [www.facebook.com/AgriSafety](http://www.facebook.com/AgriSafety), website, meetings/talks with local advisers...
- Farm visits
  - Accident analysis (Topdanmark, Insurance company)
  - Safety walks
- Campaign: safe handling of cattle and pigs (Marianne)

- <https://player.vimeo.com/video/235864200>



## SAFE HANDLING OF CATTLE

42 % of all work-related accidents at dairy farms occur when moving the cattle to the milking area or in direct contact

Safe handling has to be learned. Talk to new as well as experienced employees about good practices.

**Stay calm**  
Anxious animals are unpredictable which can easily lead to dangerous situations.

**Taking time saves time**  
Follow the pace of the animals, and give them time to overcome anything unfamiliar.

**TYPICAL ACCIDENTS**

- Kicked while milking
- Crushed or pinned between animal and equipment
- Goed
- Slip down

**Why is the flight zone so important?**

Most animals prefer to walk with a certain distance to you and to each other. This distance is called the animal's flight zone. The distance varies depending on the situation and the animal's experience with you. Walk at the edge of the flight zone when moving the animals.

To make an animal move forward, the handler must be behind the point of balance and the animal. To get the animal to move backward, the handler must stand in front of the point of balance.

Stay out of the flight zone, unless you want the animal to turn around. It will be being able to see you all the time.

See short videos and good tips on this theme page. Keep updated on working conditions and agriculture on the Danish Agricultural Agency's website [landbruget.dk](http://landbruget.dk)

prom og fonden for landbrug

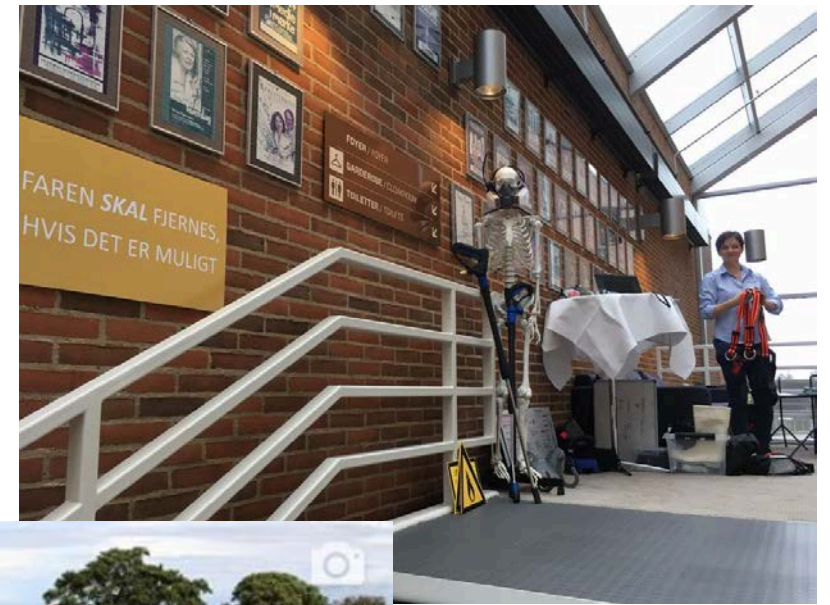
SEGES



# SEGES initiatives

- Education for farm representatives
- Nudging initiatives – right now at a cattle farm (Helle)
- Hand out reward for best farm workplace
- New tools to bring HS on the board meeting (Christina)
- Teaching at agricultural schools (next week Carolyn and David at Danish schools)
- Evening arrangement

Noget at leve af. Noget at leve for.





## Fortunately, there are lots of success stories as well (gold/diamants)



*"...we have been offered even higher wages elsewhere, but we are so happy to be working in a safe and orderly environment as we do here..."*

- More and more people talk about working environment and agriculture in the same sentence
- More and more people want knowledge – seek out our Health & Safety courses
- Close cooperation with authorities. The Danish Working Environment Authority increased focus, great useful meetings/discussions, joint communication/articles – a qualified joint effort)
- More and more suppliers to agriculture focus on health and safety – important for them how their products are used – they do not wish to see their products involved in accidents
- More and more people understand and focus on the importance of good working environment – the influence on image, workplace quality, efficiency, well-being, retention of/recruiting employees.

# Huge focus right now (small pieces of gold to look for....)

## – momentum to do more and include more stakeholders

- Approved H&S policy, 2017 by the Primary Sector Board
- New committee for HS Agriculture & Food Council (L&F) founded - new forces
- Sector boards have H&S on agendas
- Agreement between the Minister of Employment (Troels Lund Poulsen) and Chairman for L&F (Martin Merrild) – double interview, press releases to put focus on safety
- All Insurance companies have interest now
- More interested sponsors



# We need a joint effort – work more closely together with relevant stakeholders



Delivery situations...risks of being run over, slip/trip/fall



Picking up milk situations...risk of slip/trip/fall



Treating cows...risks of being run over, slip/trip/fall, kicking

**The Danish Veterinary Association**





Many many small colourfull  
steps in the same direction  
– then we will make good  
things happen eventually 😊  
Wait and see –  
will be a narly  
outcome 😊



Thanks for your attention 😊