

Agricultural Science Teachers' Noise Exposure During Shop Classes – Preliminary Results of a Pilot Study

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Study Aims: Agricultural science (AS) teachers may be at risk of developing noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) due to high noise levels produced by tools/equipment used in shop classes. However, the few existing studies in this area were conducted over 20 years ago; therefore, there is a need for current research. To begin addressing this need, the current pilot study aimed to investigate junior high and high school shop teachers' risk of NIHL by: 1) surveying shop teachers regarding their noise exposure, hearing problems, use of HPDs, and previous training on NIHL and hearing conservation, 2) measuring teachers' noise exposure in shop classes, and 3) measuring

hearing protection. Personal noise dosimetry measurements were taken for each teacher during each of his/her