

How Loud Is Too Loud on the Farm?

Sound is measured in decibels (dB). Sounds at or above 85 dBA* can cause hearing loss. The louder the sound, the quicker it can damage your hearing. *dBA = A-weighted decibels

2 minutes at 110 dBA can damage your hearing.

140-170 dBA

Shooting sports, or fireworks



14 minutes at 100 dBA can damage your hearing.

77-115 dBA

Chainsaw



8 hours at 85 dBA can damage your hearing.

85-107 dBA

Pig squeals



At or below 70 dBA, sounds are generally considered safe.

82-100 dBA

Grain dryer, grain auger, or tractor with no cab



87-98 dBA

Woodshop



76-87 dBA

Tractor with a closed cab



60-70 dBA

Normal conversation, or hens clucking



30 dBA

Whisper



Why Protect Your Hearing?

Noise-induced hearing loss:

- Can build over time.
- Is permanent.
- Is preventable.

How to Protect Your Hearing:

- Lower the volume.
- Move away from the noise.
- Wear hearing protectors, such as earplugs or earmuffs.



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<https://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov>

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Sources: The Noise Navigator™ Sound Level Database and CDC's National Center for Environmental Health

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