



# Tailgate Safety Training for Landscaping and Horticultural Services

Agricultural Safety Program, 590 Woody Hayes Drive, Columbus, OH 43210

## Color Coding

**Objective: Use the color code system to identify workplace hazards.**

### *How to Use This Module*

A consistent color system warns of safety hazards. For this module:

- Review the standard color codes and their meaning.
- Tour your workplace to find examples of color codes and the hazards identified.
- Look for hazards that are not appropriately color coded.
- Review the important points.
- Take the True/False quiz to check your learning.

## Background

The color coding system increases employee safety. All workers should be familiar with the system. Reassigned workers should learn the codes in their new area.

Below is the standard color code system. A copy of the color code should be easy to find for quick reference. Use clearly printed labels with colors. Signs, tags, and tickets should all follow the same system.

<b>The Standard Color-Code System</b>	
<b>Red</b>  Should also show the word  <b>DANGER</b>	Fire safety equipment Safety containers for flammables Emergency devices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency shut-off switches</li> <li>• Stop bar</li> <li>• Buttons</li> </ul>
<b>Orange</b>	Machinery or equipment that can <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut</li> <li>• Crush</li> <li>• Shock</li> <li>• Cause other injury</li> </ul>

*Continued*

<b>The Standard Color-Code System (continued)</b>	
<p>Yellow</p> <p>Should also show the word</p> <p><b>CAUTION</b></p>	<p>Physical dangers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slipping</li> <li>• Tripping</li> <li>• Falling</li> <li>• Caught-between hazards</li> <li>• Striking-against hazards</li> </ul>
Green	First-aid equipment
Blue	<p>Equipment under repair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not start equipment.</li> <li>• Do not move equipment.</li> </ul>
<p>Magenta and Yellow</p> <p>or</p> <p>Black and Yellow</p>	Radiation hazards
Black, White, or a Combination	<p>Traffic movement cautions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aisles</li> <li>• Housekeeping areas</li> <li>• Similar areas</li> </ul>

## Review the Following Points

- All workers should know the color codes.
- Your workplace codes should be posted and easy to see.
- In the standard code, red means DANGER.
- In the standard code, yellow means CAUTION.

## About These Modules

The author team for the training modules in the landscape and horticultural tailgate training series includes Dee Jepsen, Program Director, Agricultural Safety and Health, Ohio State University Extension; Michael Wonacott, Research Specialist, Vocational Education; Peter Ling, Greenhouse Specialist; and Thomas Bean, Agricultural Safety Specialist. Modules were developed with funding from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Grant Number 46E3-HT09.

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Answer Key: 1 = T, 2 = T, 3 = F, 4 = F, 5 = T.

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## Color Coding

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### True or False?

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. In the standard code, a first aid kit is green.             | T | F |
| 2. In the standard code, red means DANGER.                     | T | F |
| 3. In the standard code, blue means CAUTION.                   | T | F |
| 4. In the standard code, a stop bar would be green.            | T | F |
| 5. Clearly printed labels should be used with the color codes. | T | F |