

Case 472. 69-year-old farmer died when he was pinned between a 1967 Friday model cherry harvester and a barn wall.

A 69-year-old male farmer died when he was pinned between a 1967 Friday model cherry harvester and a barn wall. The decedent had previously placed two cherry shakers in the barn. He appeared to be in the process of placing a walk-behind hydraulically controlled 1967 Friday cherry harvester between the two previously placed harvesters. The 1967 Friday cherry harvester was approximately 20 feet long and 8 feet wide. The harvester had a 24-inch long constant pressure control lever located approximately 30 inches above the ground. As the decedent backed the harvester between the two previously positioned shakers, the constant pressure lever became caught between the decedent's legs. The lever's position did not allow the lever to disconnect when released causing the decedent to be pinned against the barn wall.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health division did not issue citations to the farm operation. The farm closed with the death of the decedent.