3 Young Sisters Killed in Freak Farming Accident

The girls were buried in canola seed on family farm

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(Newser) – Three young sisters died Tuesday in a freak accident on a family farm in rural Canada, the Edmonton Journal reports. The girls—11-year-old twins Dara and Jana and 13-year-old Catie—were smothered by canola seed in the back of a truck, though the details of their deaths remain hazy. A deputy fire chief tells CBC News the girls somehow fell into the canola seed while the truck was being unloaded. But the Journal reports the girls were playing on the truck while it was being filled with seed and were buried. Regardless, family members and neighbors pulled the girls out and attempted CPR without success, according to the Calgary Sun.

"Our kids died living life on the farm," the Alberta family says in a statement. "We do not regret raising and involving our kids ... on our farm. It was our life." The family's pastor spoke on behalf of the family, telling the Journal: "They are obviously devastated. There is just a deep sense of loss and sadness." Neighbors were planning to finish the grieving family's autumn harvest for them, and nine combines and several trucks were already on the job Wednesday. One man sent up a drone to take a photo of the group effort. "I want Roger to see this," he said, referring to the girls' father. "I want him to know how everyone is here to help him." (Earlier this year, a father and son lost their lives to a manure pit's deadly fumes.)