

Poorly used or faulty machinery is a **MAJOR** cause of death and injury on farms. Common tractor accidents involve roll-overs, run overs and unguarded power take-off (PTO) shafts.

Other dangerous machinery includes quad (four wheel) bikes and motorbikes, chain and bench saws, harvesters, generators, augers, and earth-moving equipment.

## Farm Machinery Safety Measures

- ◆ Read and follow the manufacturers' instructions for operation.
- ◆ Don't remove or modify safety features.
- ◆ Ensure everyone working on the farm is thoroughly familiar with operating procedures and safety requirements for any machinery they use.
- ◆ If needed, replace and fit guards to cover the moving parts of machinery, i.e. a PTO guard.
- ◆ Make sure tractors are correctly ballasted or weighted for jobs.
- ◆ Fit falling object protective structures (FOPS) on front-end loaders.
- ◆ Keep a well-stocked, up to date first aid kit in an accessible area.
- ◆ Always wear appropriate protective and visible clothing.



## Safe Tractor Operation

- ◆ Don't allow anyone to stand near the tractor when it's being started.
- ◆ Don't operate tractor close to dams, pipes, drains or powerlines, on steep slopes or near other potential hazards.
- ◆ Remember tractors have a high center of gravity and are more likely to tip when riding over hilly ground.
- ◆ Don't carry passengers.
- ◆ Make sure steps and control pedals are non-slip and kept clean.
- ◆ Devise safety procedures everyone on your farm must follow, such as only starting the tractor when sitting in the driver's seat and turning the tractor engine off before leaving the driver's seat.
- ◆ Install ROPS and seatbelts on all tractors.

## Protect Children From Tractor Accidents

- ◆ Warn children of hazards and safety issues
- ◆ Always remove keys from tractors
- ◆ Separate play and active farm areas
- ◆ Securely lock equipment areas
- ◆ Don't leave machinery running unattended
- ◆ Lower front-end loaders or three-point linkages after tractor use
- ◆ Don't allow children to ride on/drive tractors
- ◆ Properly train young adults before they operate machinery



## Draw Up A Farm Safety **EMERGENCY** Plan

- ◆ Ensure easy access to a suitable and well-stocked first aid kit.
- ◆ Make sure at least one person on the farm is trained in first aid.
- ◆ Keep emergency numbers and correct addresses next to the telephone.
- ◆ Plan routes to the nearest hospital – make sure it has an operational emergency department.
- ◆ Regularly talk through your emergency plan with your family and other workers.
- ◆ Make sure your children understand what to do in an emergency.