

TP #2d:

Tractors & Motorized Equipment

Tractors are invaluable farm and ranch tools, but they are also a major source of farm injuries. In practically every instance, the accidents are the result of failure to follow appropriate operating rules and manufacturer guidelines. The following suggestions can apply to every agricultural operation involving tractors:

- _____ Inspect brakes, steering, tires and lights daily and repair as needed.
- _____ Shut down the engine and set brakes when making any adjustments, when hitching tools, or when tractor is left unattended.
- _____ Avoid tight-radius turns that could permit implements to “climb up” the tires.
- _____ Apply brakes slowly to avoid overturns.
- _____ Always use hitch provided; never hitch to axle housing. Hitch low to reduce possibility of overturns.
- _____ Start slow to avoid overturns. Operate at moderate speeds; when in doubt, slow down.
- _____ Use extra care when turning on a slope, slide hill, rough, or uneven ground. Tractors have a high center of gravity and overturn easily. Since wheel tractors are light on the front end, it is best to go up a steep hill backward to prevent a rear overturn.
- _____ Slow down before turning. This is particularly true at turn rows close to an irrigation ditch.
- _____ Tractors should be provided with factory-developed rollover guards and seat belts.
- _____ Always be seated when operating a tractor. Never stand.
- _____ Never permit riders on either the tractor or towed equipment unless it was designed for passengers.
- _____ Never mount or dismount a tractor while it is in motion.

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| _____ Employer Signature | _____ Employee Signature | ____/____/____ Date |
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