

TAILGATE TOPIC



TOPIC: Farm Equipment Safety

OVERVIEW: Farming operations require the use of many different types of equipment and machinery. It is very important that all employees understand the safe operation, service, and use of this equipment. Many serious injuries and even deaths have occurred due to lack of knowledge, poor training, or taking short cuts. Following the rules below can significantly reduce these exposures.

TALKING POINTS:

- Only trained and authorized operators are permitted to operate any piece of equipment or machinery.
- All machinery and equipment will be inspected by the operator prior to use to ensure that all guards and safety devices are in place and working properly. Any problems noted will be reported to the supervisor immediately.
- Only authorized personnel will attempt to adjust or repair equipment. If a piece of equipment is not in good working condition, it should not be used and in some manner disabled to prevent use.
- Power tools, hand tools, and maintenance/repair equipment will be maintained in safe working condition and used only for their intended design.
- Lockout, Tagout, or Blockout procedures will be followed when adjustments or repairs are being conducted.
- Good housekeeping in shops, tractor or truck cabs, around machinery, and in storage areas is a priority and inspections will be conducted on a frequent basis.

- Employees will be provided with and the use of proper personal protective equipment (PPE) will be enforced. Such PPE may include: gloves, hearing protection, bump cap or hard hat, boots, or other protective outer wear.
- Horse play will not be tolerated while working on or around equipment, machinery, or other work activities.

REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Who is responsible for training and authorizing employees to operated equipment or machinery?
2. Who is required to inspect equipment and how often should it be inspected? (Answer: the operator, prior to use).
3. Are operators permitted to conduct repairs and maintenance on equipment? Who is? (Answer: No, only authorized personnel may adjust or repair equipment).
4. What procedures should be used when adjusting or repairing equipment or machinery to prevent personnel from getting injured by accidental contact? (Answer: Lockout, Tagout, or Blockout).
5. What Personal Protective Equipment is required to safely complete the work at hand? (Answer: List equipment appropriate for your task).

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