

Top 3 Causes of Farm Fatalities

According to the National Safety Council, half of all fatalities on farms involve a tractor. The top three causes of farm fatalities are:

- Rollovers
- Runovers
- PTO Entanglements



Tractor Rollover Facts

- About half of all tractor fatalities result from a rollover situation
- Causes of overturns include operating on steep slopes, hitching too high, taking turns quickly, and driving too close to ditches
- The operator of an overturned tractor without a Roll Over Protective Structure (ROPS) and seatbelt has only a 20% chance of survival
- The operator of a ROPS-protected tractor, wearing a seatbelt, is 99% likely to be able to walk away from a tractor rollover
- Around half of farm tractors currently in use don't have a certified ROPS

NYCAMH

A program of Bassett Healthcare Network



Established by the New York State Legislature in 1988. Recognizing the unacceptably high rates of occupational injury and illness in New York's largest industry, the legislature has charged NYCAMH to provide:

- Research into the causes and prevention of agricultural injury and illness
- Education and prevention activities within the farm community
- Education of professionals serving the farm community
- Clinical help for farm-related health problems

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Tractor Safety



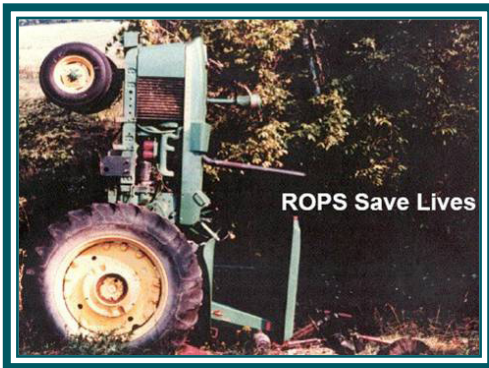
“Enhancing agricultural and rural health by preventing and treating occupational injury and illness.”





Rollover Prevention

- Avoid ditches and steep slopes
- Only hitch to the drawbar
- Set wheels wide
- Start moving forward slowly and change speeds smoothly
- Use appropriate speeds
- Slow down for turns
- Use tractors with ROPS and seatbelts



Tractor Runover Facts

- One fourth of farm fatalities result from runovers. Most occur when a passenger falls off
- The highest percentage of runover victims are children riding on a tractor who are 6 years old or younger
- Starting a tractor from anywhere other than the operator's seat bypasses all the safety features that prevent runovers



Runover Prevention

- Keep bystanders and children away from machinery operating areas
- Only start tractors from the operator's seat to prevent bypass start runovers
- Adopt a "no extra riders" policy to eliminate the possibility of passengers falling off the tractor



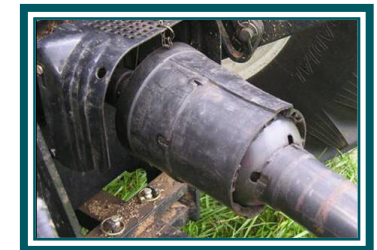
PTO Entanglement Facts

- Many farm deaths and many life-altering farm injuries are caused by PTO entanglements
- 87% of all PTO entanglements occur where guards or shields are damaged or missing



PTO Safety Tips

- Keep all shields in place
- Regularly inspect and maintain shields
- Turn off the PTO and tractor's engine before leaving the operator's seat
- Allow time for all components to completely stop rotating before servicing



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