

## Farm Risk Management: Equipment and Vehicle Operation

Vehicles that aren't used or maintained properly are a risk not just to others on the road, but anyone behind the wheel or even near a vehicle. Tractor and highway-related accidents account for 49% of agricultural fatalities each year.

### Equipment safety

- Seat belts, rollover protection, and guards can help prevent 40% of farm machinery injuries.
- Keep auger, PTO, and other protections in place whenever possible.
- Don't jump off equipment.
- Keep steps and platforms clear of debris.

### Off-road equipment operation

- Be aware of your terrain and surroundings.
- Wear seat belts at all times.

### Fires

- Clean chaff/trash off equipment, particularly combines. A leaf blower can be used to quickly clean up when you stop to refuel or rest.
- Carry at least one 4A60BC fire extinguisher on the machine at all times.

### Operate safely on roads

- Scan your surroundings and look for signs of distracted driving in others.
- Monitor for people passing in front or from behind. Be prepared to react if they have not provided enough room.
- Maintain proper following distance and provide additional space in poor weather or limited visibility conditions.
- Buckle up and avoid distractions