



TALK LEADER INSTRUCTIONS

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize your talk to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the participants.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

WORK ACTIVITY

The large size and slow speed of our farm machinery along with weather and road conditions can be hazardous when driving on public roads. Furthermore, traffic may be impatient to pass or travelling too fast to brake in time to avoid a collision. The safe operation of our farm machinery on public roadways requires your full attention.

BACKGROUND

Typical circumstances of collisions involving farm equipment are: (1) **left turn collisions**, which most commonly happen when motorists try to pass a farm vehicle as it makes a left turn; (2) **rear-end collisions** frequently occur when motorists misjudge the speed of a slow-moving farm vehicle and do not have time to react and slow down; and (3) **passing collisions**, which happen when motorists attempt to pass a farm vehicle without realizing the width and length of the equipment until they are in the passing lane. **Let's talk about specific traffic dangers you've seen on this farm.**

Key Points

We have Standard Operating Practices for operating all self-propelled equipment on our farm.

If you don't remember them, review them—you can find them: _____.

Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) Emblem.

This triangular, bright-orange sign with a red border must be securely mounted at the centre or to the left of centre of all slow-moving farm vehicles and equipment. Be sure it is clean and visible. If it is faded or damaged tell me.

Do a pre-operational inspection before you begin to operate the equipment.

Check to ensure brakes, tires and lights are in good mechanical condition. Clean windows, mirrors, lights and markers. For

more information on this, refer to the Toolbox Talk on *Pre-operational Inspection of Equipment*. You can find it: _____.

Secure towed loads. Have any of you ever seen what happens when a towed implement becomes unhitched while in motion (discuss as appropriate)?

For more information on this, refer to the Toolbox Talk on *Hitching*. You can find it: _____.

Only trained and licensed drivers who know the machine's operations and rules of the road are allowed to operate machinery.

Drive as far to the right as possible, but stay on the road. Don't drive on the shoulder as it could be soft or have potholes and motorist may try to pass when it is unsafe.

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CAUTION

This information is generally consistent with Canadian Standards Association Standard M669-02, however it is your responsibility to follow the standards and regulations set in your province.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES / CONTACTS

In case of incident or injury, call 911 or your local emergency services, then me or your supervisor.

MORE RESOURCES

Farm Equipment and Motor Vehicle Operation on Public Roads, by the Institute of Agricultural Rural and Environment Health (January 2003), available at <http://casa-acsa.ca/content/farm-equipment-and-motor-vehicle-operation-public-roads>.

Clearly indicate all turns. Left turns can be particularly hazardous as typically, the motorist following farm equipment thinks the operator is pulling over to allow him to pass, when the operator is actually making a wide left turn. If your equipment does not allow other drivers to see your signals, an escort vehicle(s) should be used.

Let's talk about this.

Slow down when leaving a roadway.

Tractors have a high centre of gravity. Decreasing a tractor's speed by half cuts its centrifugal force by a factor of four, reducing the risk of rollover.

Use extra caution when transporting dangerous goods, such as anhydrous ammonia, pesticides, compressed gas or fuel.

All of our tractors have rollover protective structures (ROPS) and a seat belt—use it! Wearing a seatbelt in a ROPS-equipped tractor keeps

the operator protected and in the safe zone. Otherwise he or she will likely be killed when thrown from the seat and crushed by the tractor.

DO NOT allow extra riders. We have a "No Rider" policy on all tractors and other farm equipment.

Be aware of weather and road conditions. Check your local weather forecast before leaving. If you are concerned, talk to me.

Tell someone where you are going, including your route and what time you expect to be back. Remember we have a Working Alone Policy, so let's use it.

If you are impaired by alcohol or drugs or too tired, don't operate farm vehicles and equipment.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

(Use extra pages to write further comments or suggestions)

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____

Print name _____

Signature _____



CanadaFarmSafe
SécuriFermeCanada

This Producer Tool was developed by the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA). Conducting regular Toolbox Talks, or safety meetings, with farm workers is one component of establishing a comprehensive farm safety plan as outlined in the Canada FarmSafe Plan, CASA's business-risk management tool for health and safety on the farm. To download the core Canada FarmSafe Plan, visit www.casa-acsa.ca/CanadaFarmSafePlan, or contact CASA to learn more at 1-877-452-2272.

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