
AGRICULTURAL SAFETY TOPICS

NO RIDERS ON FARM & LAWN EQUIPMENT

Objective:

To know the dangers associated with riders on farm equipment and mowers.

Background:

Despite that most farm equipment does not have an extra seat provision, some people allow riders. **Any rider for any reason is a safety hazard.** An extra rider may block the driver's view or movement. They also may fall from the tractor and be run over or become entangled in equipment and be killed.

Some ways to reduce the perceptible need to carry a rider are: advanced planning of work tasks, using safety management techniques to reduce hazards, alternative forms of transportation and changing job assignments. The majority of riders are young children and account for the largest number of fatalities.

Remember:

- Only one person is allowed on each piece of farm equipment.
- “No riders” rule should be enforced when operating lawn equipment.
- Do not let farm or lawn equipment serve as a baby-sitting service. Many children are injured each year in machinery related accidents.
- Conduct new employee training in a “classroom” setting before anyone drives a tractor.
- When additional help is needed at a work site, arrange additional transportation.

Extra passengers are problematic because they:

- Interfere with the operator's vision and ability to use the control levers.
- Distract the operator.
- Increase the rider's exposure to noise, dust and chemicals.
- Increase the risk of a multiple injury incident.

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Review the Following Points:

- A rider, on any power equipment, is a safety hazard and should not be allowed.
- Many children are injured each year in machinery related accidents.
- All drivers of farm equipment need training in a classroom setting.
- Planning transportation needs ahead reduces the temptation to carry passengers on farm machinery.

Based upon: Ohio State University Extension. *No Riders*. Retrieved from website <http://ohioline.osu.edu/atts/modules.html>

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