
AGRICULTURAL SAFETY TOPICS

PREVENTING MACHINE HAZARDS

Objective:

To reduce hazards and prevent accidents involving machinery.

Background:

Proper training can prevent injuries. Know how to operate a piece of machinery and inspect for problem areas before turning on the power. Avoid tripping hazards by keeping air hoses and extension cords out of the way.

Check before operating:

- Have you reviewed the owner's manual? It will provide operating, repairing, lubricating and fuel information.
- Are the warning decals in place?
- Are the machine guards properly placed and in good condition?
- Are electrical lines damage free?
- Are air and hydraulic lines in good condition and not leaking?
- Is the setup a proper setup?
- Is the area around the machines orderly?
- Is the equipment jack in working order?

Personal Protection:

- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE), such as goggles, safety shoes and leather gloves.
- Long hair should be tied back or tucked under to avoid getting caught in machinery.
- Avoid wearing jewelry.

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Machine Maintenance Checklist for Safety:

- Keep machines repaired, lubricated and adjusted.
- Clean up excess lubricants.
- Clearly mark control switches and valves that control machines.
- Check machines for emergency stop switches; they should be located on or near the machine so the machine can be turned off quickly if a malfunction occurs.

During Operation:

- Turn power off and remove key before working around or performing maintenance on the machine.
- Stay away from moving parts.

Review The Following Points:

- Always wear PPE on the job, when required.
- Avoid wearing jewelry, hair styles, or loose clothing that might get caught on machinery.
- Keep work space clutter free.
- Know how to use the machine safely before operating.

Based upon: Ohio State University Extension. *Machine Hazards*. Retrieved from website <http://ohioline.osu.edu/atts/modules.html>

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