

Instructional Scenario

Safe Farm Equipment Operation



Course/Duty Area: Operating the Farm Business/Practicing Safety in Agricultural Production Enterprises

Scenario:

Mrs. Jones is a local farmer who raises fresh produce to sell at her local market and to businesses in the county. She also holds festivals at various times of the year, including a spring strawberry festival, a summer tomato festival, and a fall festival. She is constantly hiring individuals to operate the farm tractors during production season and to provide shuttles at her festivals. She asks you to develop a training program for new employees, including a video class and exam to ensure her new employees understand the importance of safety when operating farm machinery.

Big Question:

How does one safely operate a farm tractor in the fields and at public events?

Focused Questions:

- How do you determine whether a tractor is safe for operation on the farm and on the highway?
- What are some of the most common injuries that occur around farm machinery?
- How do you safely operate a farm tractor?

Student Project or Outcome:

Students should research farm accidents and the proper operation of a farm tractor. Students will produce a five-minute video that shows the proper operation of a farm tractor, including the use of safety equipment. Students should also develop a written exam from the video.

Project-Based Assessment:

- Take a field trip to a local farm machinery dealership to view the various types of farm machinery and see a demonstration of the proper operation of farm machinery.
- Hold a farm tractor driving contest for students, either with a school-owned tractor or a loaner from a local dealer.
- Hold a lawn tractor operation contest.

Teacher Resources:

- [Safety First](#), A & G Safety Solutions
- [Tractor Operator CDE](#), Virginia FFA
- [National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program](#), Penn State Extension

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