

Employee Operating Instructions for Roll-Over Protective Structures

OSHA regulations¹ require that every employee who operates an agricultural tractor² shall be informed of the operating practices listed below as well as any other practices dictated by the work environment. Such information shall be provided at the time of initial assignment and at least annually thereafter.

1. Securely fasten your seat belt if the tractor has a ROPS.
2. Where possible, avoid operating the tractor near ditches, embankments, and holes.
3. Reduce speed when turning, crossing slopes, and on rough, slick, or muddy surfaces.
4. Stay off slopes too steep for safe operation.
5. Watch where you are going, especially at row ends, on roads, and around trees.
6. Do not permit others to ride.
7. Operate the tractor smoothly – no jerky turns, starts, or stops.
8. Hitch only to the drawbar and hitch points recommended by tractor manufacturers.
9. When tractor is stopped, set brakes securely and use park lock if available.

¹29CFR 1928.51, Roll-over protective structures (ROPS) for tractors used in agricultural operations, part (d)

²“Agricultural tractor” means a two or four-wheel drive type vehicle, or track vehicle, of more than 20 engine horsepower, designed to furnish the power to pull, carry, propel, or drive implements that are designed for agriculture. All self-propelled implements are excluded. [29 CFR 1928.51(a)]