



TRACTOR SAFETY TIPS

Statistics + Facts

- From 2007 to 2016, tractor rollovers accounted for more than one out of every three farm-related deaths in Illinois.¹
- Machinery (including tractors) is the leading cause of fatal injuries to youth in the United States.
- Only 59 percent of tractors in use on farms in the United States in 2012 were equipped with a Roll-Over Protection Structure, or ROPS – the most effective way to prevent tractor rollover fatalities.²
- The mean cost of a tractor overturn is \$1,000,000.³
- Every \$1 invested in tractor ROPS installation yields \$3.75 investment return.³

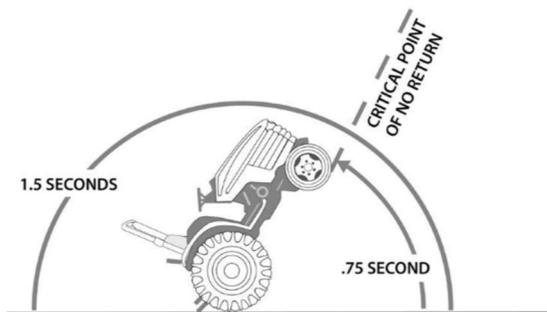
Prevention

Top Ten of Tractor Safety by Kubota

1. Know your tractor, its implements and how they work. Also, keep your equipment in good condition.
2. Use Roll-Over Protective Structures (ROPS) and seat belt whenever and wherever applicable. If your tractor has a foldable ROPS, fold it down only when absolutely necessary and fold it up and lock it again as soon as possible. Do not wear the seat belt when the ROPS is folded. Most tractor fatalities are caused by overturns.
3. Be familiar with your terrain and work area. Use special caution on slopes, slow down for all turns and stay off the highway whenever possible.
4. Never start an engine in a closed shed or garage. Exhaust gas contains carbon monoxide, which is colorless, odorless and deadly.

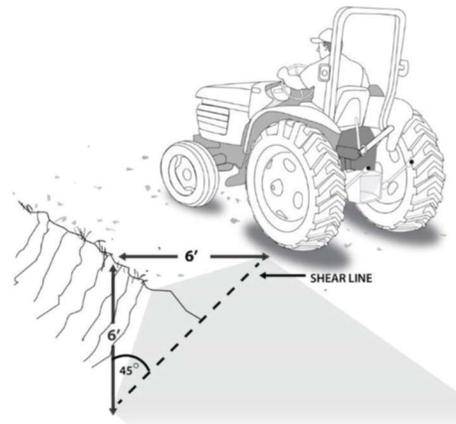
5. Always keep your power take-off (PTO) properly shielded. Make it a habit to walk around your tractor and PTO driven implement, never over, through or between the tractor and implement, particularly if either is running.
6. Keep your hitches low and always on the drawbar. Otherwise, your tractor might flip over backwards.
7. Never get off a moving tractor or leave it with its engine running. Shut it down before leaving the seat. A runaway tractor can be extremely dangerous.
8. Never refuel while the engine is running or hot. Additionally, do not add coolant to the radiator while the engine is hot. Hot coolant can erupt and scald.
9. Keep all children off and away from your tractor and its implements at all times. Remember, a child's disappointment is fleeting, while your memory of the child's injury or death will last a lifetime.
10. Never be in a hurry or take chances about anything you do with your tractor. Think safety first, then take your time and do it right.

The Point of No Return



The average response time of an adult is .75 second.

The Shear Line



If the ditch is 6' deep, you need to be 6' back from it.

References

- ¹ Dr. Robert Aherin from the University of Illinois Extension emailed me the data titled "Summary of Farm Deaths-2016."
- ² Agricultural Safety. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/aginjury/>
- ³ Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America Fact Sheet
- ⁴ Kubota – <http://www.kubota.com/safety/TenCommandments.aspx>