



Work Safety - Edition 2014 Concise cards of major risks in agricultural activity

4 Mechanization - Card 04.01 General precautions



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THE RISKS:

- [Various accidents occurring during machine use](#) (caused by overturning, tow and equipment unhooking, unbalancing, hooked equipment control losing, plumbing system breaking, short-circuit)
- [Road accidents](#) (lack of signals and lack of devices)
- [Sanctions](#) (lack of improvement and lack of training)

It is necessary to remind that:

Equipment and machines shall be in conformity with the regulations. In addition, even breaks and failures of equipment and machine parts are responsible for dreadful accidents both for the operator and for people near the machinery. That is why severe rule respect is required on maintenance and on controls imposed by builders which furthermore help to prolong machinery life.

PRACTICAL AND OPERATING INDICATIONS:

Generally the Employer shall:

- check the condition of already in use equipment and evaluate risks;
- intervene with technical improvements and recondition machines and equipment (if technically possible) according to the law in force when they were first merchandised and according to the norm state of the art;
- guarantee equipment maintenance;
- evaluate the equipment substitution in case residual risks are impossible to remove;
- put at worker's disposal equipment adequate to his/her task, safety suitable and built in conformity with the regulations;
- introduce present-day technology and effective work organization to minimize risks linked to working equipment;
- control machine and equipment are activated and installed according to builder's instructions;
- prevent worker from using working equipment in different ways from those provided for by the builder;
- reserve exclusively for experts the use of equipment which require specific knowledge for its danger;
- keep up to date each equipment maintenance booklet;
- form an train adequately each worker; and inform worker about the risks linked to his/her work.

Generally the worker shall:

- attend forming and training courses organised by the employer;
- use working equipment according to the received information, formation and training, without operating or manoeuvring on his/her own initiative;
- not remove nor modify safety, signalling or controlling devices without prior permission;
- take care of the equipment without modifying it on his/her own initiative;
- report to the employer every fault noticed in the equipment and other any dangerous condition.



Choosing the equipment, it is necessary to take into account:

- performing conditions and characteristics of the job;
- risks present in working environment;
- risks linked to equipment use;
- a href="mecc_en05.html#Menu">control systems, which shall be safe even with failures, disturbs and predictable solicitations linked to the equipment projected use.

Working equipment shall be:

- installed following builder's indications;
- used correctly;
- provided with instruction of use, were it necessary, and regular maintenance shall be carried out.

For equipment which require inside knowledge or responsibilities, in relation to their specific risks, it is necessary to guarantee that:

- the equipment use shall be exclusively reserved for people in charge;
- if repair, transformation or maintenance is needed, the operator must be qualified to undertake the task.

Ensure in each case the attendance of specific courses to hazardous machinery and equipment

FURTHER INDICATIONS AND ADVICE

- Circulation rules on working equipment which manoeuvre in an operational area shall be established and observed.
- It is necessary to adopt organising measures suited to avoid that pedestrians find themselves in self-propelling equipment activity zone.
- If the presence of a pedestrian is necessary to the successful execution of the task, rules shall be followed to keep the operator who is working on foot safe from equipment dangers.
- Workers transport on movable equipment mechanically moved shall exclusively take place in safe areas, prearranged for that. If tasks shall be carried out during the transport, equipment velocity must be significantly decreased.
- Working equipment provided with internal combustion engine could be used in closed areas only if ventilation is guaranteed in order to avoid worker's health and safety risks.
- Workers who move away from the corporate headquarters, even with an agricultural vehicle, must have a system of communication and a "package of medication." Recommended a fire extinguisher

