

Introduction

When operating a tractor the following procedure should be followed:

1. Check the tractor and implement before going to the field.
2. Lock the rear wheel brakes together when traveling on the roadway.
3. Check that the field conditions are suitable before start working.
4. When working in the field, unlock the brake pedals so wheels can brake separately for improved turning ability.
5. Do not change gears when the tractor is moving.
6. Ensure the PTO shaft is covered. As uncovered PTO shafts are a major cause of tractor accidents.



7. When operating a 4-wheel drive tractor engage the front drive in the field. Do not drive on the highway with the front wheels engaged as this may cause "wind up" which could damage the transmission.
8. Select the correct operating gear. Most field operations are undertaken at ground speeds between 5-8km/hr. In a wet situation the gear selection may be lower.
9. Use the hand throttle when working in the field. Foot throttles should only be used for transport situations.
10. If the implement is operating at the desired depth and the engine cannot hold its engine RPM then select a lower gear.
11. When operating on slopes, avoid sudden starts and stops. Operate up and down the slope on steep slopes, not across the slope. Slow down when changing directions. Do not operate where machine could slip or tip. Stay alert for holes, rocks and roots in the terrain.
12. Only operate as fast as you feel confident to control the equipment in a safe manner.