



Power-Take-Off (PTO) Safety

The power-take-off (PTO) allows a farmer to harness the power of the tractor engine to drive a variety of machines. It is just as important today as it was when it was first introduced. However, a healthy respect for the PTO driveline's potential for causing injury and death is needed.

- Keep all PTO shielding (including the master shield) in place.
- Repair or replace damaged or missing shields.
- Stay safely away from unshielded moving parts.
- Watch your step when walking or working around a running machine.
- Wear work clothing with no loose ends or strings to catch on or be caught by machinery.
- Keep long hair under a cap or tied back to prevent it from being caught by the machinery.
- Keep children and non-workers out of the danger zone.
- Stop the PTO when dismounting from the tractor.

Inspection

- Is the PTO shaft shielded?
- Is the master shield in place?
- Is the stub shaft shield available and in use when the PTO is not in operation?
- Is the PTO shielding damaged?
- Is the PTO shaft shield working properly?
- Are all workers wearing proper clothing?
- Is long hair tied back or under a cap?

Information supplied by the National Safety Council's Agricultural Division, the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) – www.necasag.org or 888-844-6322.