

## Safety First!

- Remove keys from tractor.
- If tractor is being used for a demo, ensure the operator is over 18 years of age.
- Ensure tractor is in “park.”
- Only operate tractor if sufficient supervision is present.



## Break the Ice

- Tell participants about yourself and your experiences on a tractor.
- Ask questions to encourage children to be more involved!
- For example:
  - Does anyone in your family drive a tractor?
  - Do you know anyone who has been injured driving a tractor? What happened to them?

## Take-Home Messages

- Tractors are large powerful and dangerous machines. Operators need proper training.
- Tractors are the leading cause of injuries for all machinery.
- Young children may not be strong/tall enough to handle/operate controls **OR** have the ability to think through dangerous situations.
- The number one way children are killed on farms across Canada is by being an extra rider on a tractor and getting run over or backed over.
- No riders policy. One seat – one rider.
  - Extra riders can be thrown from the cab through the window or door.
  - Extra riders can distract the operator.
  - Extra riders can accidentally hit a lever or button.
  - Extra riders could fall out of the tractor cab or off the tractor, when the tractor hits a rock or a hole. Mom and dad are not fast enough to catch you.
  - Discuss other fun activities to do with parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles instead of riding on the tractor.
- Describe/demonstrate how difficult it is to hear someone calling when the tractor engine is running.
- Understand the importance of proper training before becoming a new tractor operator.

- Never get on or off a tractor that is moving.
- Discuss rollover protective structure (ROPS) and the use of seatbelts.
- Tractors are not to be played in or around even if they are parked.
- Talk about visibility awareness. It can be very difficult for a tractor operator to see an approaching person. Discuss blind spots (in front of the tractor, alongside of rear wheel, behind left/right rear wheel, under tractor frame).

### Interactive Activities

#### Blind Spot Hunt

- Demonstrate where blind spots occur with tractors. What could happen if someone doesn't see you behind, in front or underneath the tractor?
- Have participants take turns sitting in the tractor while another participant stands in various spots (behind rear wheels, beside rear wheels of tractor, in front of tractor and under tractor) to demonstrate that the driver cannot always see you, even if you can see them.
- Demonstrate the proper way to approach someone on a tractor. Encourage children to discuss with their parents how to get the attention of the operator.



#### Noise Demonstration

- Understand the noise of a tractor and how it can be hard to hear someone calling.
- Have a child sit inside of the tractor cab with the door closed and the other students talk to him or her to demonstrate how hard it is to hear from inside the tractor even when the engine is off.

### Notes