



# SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

## SECTION 3

### SAFETY TIPS FOR ALL EDGE&TA BRANCHES

**Take Time To Be Safe:** Saving a few minutes is not worth the chance of losing a life time. Don't be too busy to be safe. Help teach that attitude to others.

**Teach Children About Farm Safety:** When young people become mature enough to help around the farm, it's vital that they receive thorough instructions - including safety instructions. Teach children safety early and often.

**Just Say "NO" To Riders:** Children often plead for rides on equipment. It's tempting to say "yes" just so you can enjoy extra time with them. But don't do it - it's simply too dangerous.

**Teach Safety By Good Example:** Actions do speak louder than words. Children notice when adults don't follow the Safety Warnings they give. Set a good example by always following safe work practices.

**Take A Break...In Fact, Take Several!!** A high percentage of farm accidents occur after 5 p.m. Stress grows from long hours and pushing to finish a job. Fatigue overtakes you before you realize it. Just a few minutes of rest now and again make a big difference in safety and productivity.

**When You Work, Keep Others Informed:** Let someone else know where you're working, what you are doing, and when you'll likely return - just in case you do have an accident. A lot of farmers and ranchers are alive today because they were found soon enough to get help. (Can't forget the city folks either.)

**Make Sure Your Equipment Is Operating Properly:** Before you take equipment to the field (or operate at a show) inspect each machine thoroughly. Look for loose or broken parts, check safety shields, guards, reflectors, warning signs, and transport locks. You will be safer and improve performance.

**Read the Operator's Manual. Then Read it Again, Carefully:** You know how to start the engine or how to hook up so.. Why read the Manual? Because, in addition to helping you operate more efficiently, the manual is the single best source of Safety Precautions. Study it. Keep it handy. Encourage all operators to read and understand the manual.

**Shut it Off....Before You Get Off.** Always disengage the power. Shut off the engine, and remove the key before you work on any part of a machine. When others are working with you, take time to make sure everyone is clear and in view before you restart the machine.

#### **Maintain An Alert Safety Attitude:**

Experienced operators think they know everything there is to know about safety. Sometimes they do - yet - they try to by-pass safety procedures. Inexperienced operators also think they know all about safety - and take dangerous short cuts. But no one's strong enough to stop a tractor during a rollover. No one's reflexes are quicker than a P.T.O. Farming safety requires constant awareness of what could happen.

**Safety Pays:** Safety is too important and expensive to learn by accident. Consider the impact of injury on your farming or ranching operations. (In our case, club events.) Safety - live with it.

**Safety Is EVERYONE'S Job:** Avoid accidents and injuries. Learn to recognize hazards and follow safe work practices. Agriculture work related accidents can be avoided by incorporating safety into your daily management process - and make SAFETY everyone's business.

*Revised: September 2009*