



Prevent Rear

ROLLOVERS!

Tipping a tractor takes less time than you think. Would you have time to react?

It doesn't take long. Within seconds, your tractor could pass the point of no recovery in a rear rollover. Would you have time to react?

According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, farmers and others who use improper hitching methods when using tractors to tow or pull implements and other objects are at risk for severe injury and even death.

Although the risk of rear upsets when pulling implements was resolved by Harry Ferguson's revolutionary 3-point hitch design, unfortunately rear upsets still occur too often due to misuse of the tractor through improper hitching.

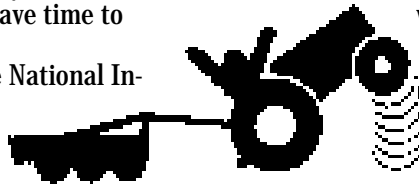
In a recent study in New York, 28 incidents of sudden rear rollover of tractors were documented during a three-month period.

Sixteen of the incidents, in the study by NIOSH's Occupational Health Nurses in Agricultural Communities program, resulted in death.

Improper hitching caused the rollovers in 60% of the events.

The study verified what ag engineers and safety specialists already knew: A rollover will occur when a tractor's center of

gravity shifts beyond the rear stability baseline (the line connecting the rear-tire contact points). For example, when a tractor is used to tow a heavy load, the rear tires may be pressed against the ground with increased force. An excessive load that is correctly attached to a drawbar set at the recommended height will cause the rear wheels to slip or the engine to stall before a rollover is induced. However, when a load is hitched high on the tractor or attached directly to the rear axle, less power is required to lift the front end of the tractor than to move the load or slip the wheels, which may cause a rear rollover. ■



REAR ROLLOVER PREVENTION TIPS

- ✓ **Use farm tractors equipped with ROPS, and wear a seat belt.**
- ✓ **Carefully select the hitching point to a tractor.**
Don't alter the drawbar by raising or shortening it.
Never attach the load directly to or above the axle.
Never use a 2- or 3-point hitch as a single-point hitch instead of a drawbar.
If the load attaches by a single point, attach it only to the drawbar.
- ✓ **Ensure that the tractor operator is familiar with the correct use of the equipment.**
- ✓ **Select a strong tow chain with a length sufficient to allow adequate stopping distance between the towed object and the towing vehicle.**
- ✓ **For greater maneuvering, ensure that the work area is cleared.**
- ✓ **Use a slow, steady pull.**
- ✓ **When rear tires are stuck, drive out in reverse.**
- ✓ **When using a tractor to free an embedded vehicle, hitch the vehicles front-to-front and drive the towing tractor in reverse to minimize the risk of rollover.**