

# Montana Ag Safety Program



## *Haying Safety*

- Read all operator's manuals; become familiar with the service requirements for each piece of equipment. Perform all scheduled maintenance at specified intervals.
- Conduct regular "walk-arounds"
  - Use all your senses – if something looks, sounds, feels, or smells wrong; take time to investigate the cause and resolve it as soon as possible
- Keep all moving components greased to manufacturer's specifications
- Replace broken and worn parts
- Utilize all shields and guards
- Disengage ALL power before working on or around the equipment
  - Ensure that rotating parts have come to a complete stop BEFORE approaching
- Lock and block all hydraulics before working on or around
- Keep a charged fire extinguisher and basic first aid kit in each piece of equipment
- Never operate at speeds too great for conditions, equipment capacity, or operator capability
- Eject bales only where safe to do so
  - Round bales roll! Be sure to eject perpendicular to the slope.
- Keep size in mind when packaging little square bales; weight can easily become unmanageable
- Minimize personnel in loading, unloading, and stacking areas
- Use equipment that is large and powerful enough to handle the bales, making sure equipment is properly ballasted for the load
- Ensure adequate overhead clearance in loading, unloading, and stacking areas
- NEVER stand underneath a suspended load
- Stack straight and true – take the time to correct any leaning or crooked stacks
- Be sure slow moving/oversized loads are appropriately marked and flaggers provided for, as necessary
- When checking windrows, watch for snakes
- Clothing is an important tool for limiting exposure to the sun but avoid loose fitting clothing
- Stay hydrated and take time to nourish yourself – watch carefully for signs of heat related illness
  - Sudden onset of nausea, headache, dizziness, or confusion
  - Extreme elevation in body temperature
  - Lack of sweating and/or pale skin

These safety rules have been written and provided to you for your safety. Your signature below indicates you have read and understand these rules, and further, that you accept the responsibility of always using good judgment to make workplace safety your number one priority.

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