



**One Road. One Goal. Safe transportation for farm vehicles and cars.**

- You will see slow moving farm equipment on the road throughout the year; with an increase in this traffic from spring into fall.
- Remember, farm vehicles have a right to be on the road, just like every other vehicle.
- Farmers are out there doing a job, producing safe and quality food for our tables.
- Farm equipment will display a slow-moving vehicle sign (the orange triangle with red border) and typically travels at speeds of 30-40km/hour.
- Motor vehicles travel much faster than farm machinery and you may be surprised at how quickly you approach slow moving vehicles.
- When traveling 80km/hr it will only take you 6.5 seconds to close a 100m distance to a tractor traveling 25km/hr. <sup>i</sup>
- Some farm equipment is very large, it may take up more than one lane and be longer than you expect.
- Keep a safe distance when following slow-moving farm machinery (at least 50 feet) and do not drive in the driver's blind spots.
- When you approach a slow-moving farm vehicle:
  - Slow down and assess the situation. <sup>ii</sup>
  - Give 100% of your attention to the road when approaching farm equipment.
  - Do not tailgate or get too close to the farm vehicle.
  - Do not pass a farm vehicle until it is safe to pass.
  - Keep an eye out for upcoming turns. Watch for hand signals or blinkers indicating a turn.

- Farm equipment is not typically traveling long distances on the road, please be patient.
- Most common accidents are:
- Left turn collision: When a farm vehicle is about to make a left turn and the motorist behind the tractor decides to pass.<sup>iii</sup>
- Rear end collision: A motorist misjudges the speed when approaching a slow-moving vehicle. This gives the motorist only a few seconds to react and slow down.
- Passing collision: A motorist attempts to pass a farm vehicle and may be unaware that the equipment is extra wide or long until they are in the passing lane.

---

<sup>i</sup> Source: Julie Bidwell. January 2003. *Farm Equipment and Motor Vehicle Operation on Public Roads*: [http://aghealth.usask.ca/resources/documents/fact\\_17.pdf](http://aghealth.usask.ca/resources/documents/fact_17.pdf) Rural Health Extension Program, Institute of Agricultural Rural and Environmental Health (I.ARE.H) Fact Sheet No. 17.

<sup>ii</sup> Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/node/1536>

<sup>iii</sup> Source: Julie Bidwell. January 2003. *Farm Equipment and Motor Vehicle Operation on Public Roads*: [http://aghealth.usask.ca/resources/documents/fact\\_17.pdf](http://aghealth.usask.ca/resources/documents/fact_17.pdf)

Rural Health Extension Program, Institute of Agricultural Rural and Environmental Health (I.ARE.H) Fact Sheet No. 17.