



An exhibit sponsored by J I Case at the 1989 Illinois Farm Bureau meeting in Chicago demonstrated the effectiveness of roll-over protective structures (ROPS) in preventing injury. Strapped into an upside-down 200 Series utility tractor, the mannequin showed the space available for the operator to survive within the protective zone provided by a ROPS.

Protective Frame Prevents Tractor Fatalities

RACINE, Wis. — Even the simplest roll-over protective structure (ROPS) can virtually eliminate the leading cause of tractor fatalities, said Dale Baker, J I Case manager of safety and legislation.

But as many as 3 million tractors are in use that are not equipped with ROPS.

"About 500 people are killed in tractor overturns every year, making this type of accident the foremost occupational hazard for farmers," said Baker.

Combined with the use of seat belts, ROPS have proven 100 percent effective in preventing serious injury from tractor overturns. "A ROPS can be anything from a simple metal frame to a fully enclosed cab," said Baker. "The structure can prevent the tractor operator from being crushed beneath the machine. Properly fastened seat belts keep him or her within the zone of protection."

Cabs have also proven effective in preventing the second-most frequent type of fatal tractor accident, a fall from a moving machine. "Cabs also protect the operator from weather, dust,

insects, low-hanging branches or beams, flying parts, chemicals and hydraulic fluid sprayed from ruptured lines," said Baker.

Overturns occur frequently in certain situations. These include: driving faster than conditions warrant; striking rocks, holes, and stumps; running into ditches; hitching high for extra traction; driving on steep slopes; and handling heavy loads with front-end loaders.

Tractors were offered with ROPS as optional equipment for 25 years, he said. "Many tractors now in use could be retrofitted. But homemade ROPS are not recommended," Baker said. "Because of the powerful forces involved in overturns, ROPS should meet or exceed performance standards set by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. It's wise to check with your local farm equipment dealer about equipping a tractor with ROPS."

"Exercise due caution and follow safe operation procedures as a matter of course," said Baker.

Delmarva Poultry Grower Seminar Set

GEORGETOWN, Del. — Poultry growers throughout Delmarva will gather Tuesday evening, February 20, 1990 for the 3rd annual Grower Educational Seminar sponsored by the Grower Committee of the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. (DPI).

The seminar to be held at the Delmarva Convention Center in Delmar, Maryland, will begin at 6:00 p.m. and conclude by 9:15 p.m.

A new trade show will feature suppliers of products and services to Delmarva's growers. The trade show will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and during the break.

"As a service to our growers, the committee thought a trade show would be a good way for suppliers to share information about new equipment and materials," said Grower Committee Chairman Bill Bruning, a poultry

grower from Snow Hill, Maryland.

Topics for the evening will include an update on animal welfare and rights issues by Dr. Richard Barczewski of the University of Delaware; liability on poultry farms as discussed by J. Frank Gordy, Jr. of Gordy Insurance Agency, Inc. in Milton, Delaware and Dr. Mary Stephenson of the University of Maryland; and proper summer poultry house ventilation presented by H. Noel Dykes of Pitman-Moore/Sterwin Labs.

"The topics and speakers have been selected by DPI's Grower Committee to present useful management information," Bruning said. The seminar, which is open to all growers free of charge, has attracted hundreds of participants in its first two years.

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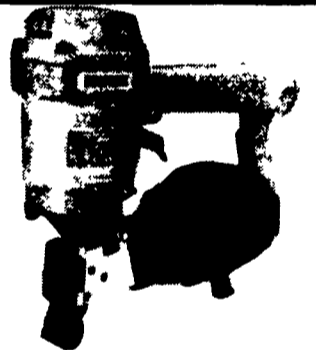
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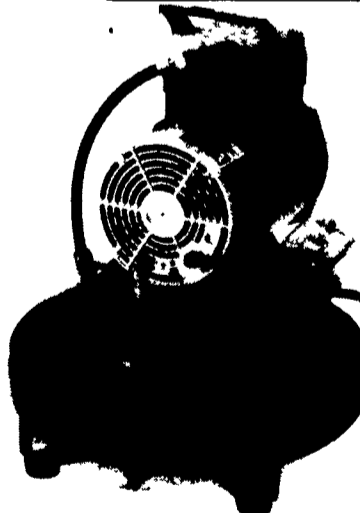
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