

Program Shows Tractor, Farm Machinery Safety

WEST CHESTER (Chester Co.) — Chester County Cooperative Extension will sponsor a tractor and farm machinery safety education program at the Octorara High School Vo-Ag Department, Rt. 41 and Highland Road in Atglen.

The sessions will be on Wednesday evenings, April 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 1990, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a final written and driving test on Saturday, May 5, 1990, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00

noon.

The instructors will be Pat Richie, Penn State multi-county agricultural engineer and Walter Wurster, Chester County extension agent.

The cost is \$3.00 per participant and registration should be made by April 9, 1990 at the Chester County Extension office, 235 W. Market Street, West Chester, PA, 19382, (215) 696-3500.

This course is designed to give

youth 14 hours of classroom and hands-on training in the safe operation of farm tractors and some farm machinery. Young people between the ages of 14 and 16 who wish to work on a farm other than their parents are required to have a Department of Labor certificate (awarded by Chester County Extension) indicating that they completed and passed this course.

It is also an opportunity for farm youth and young adults who are already operating machinery

to better familiarize themselves with important farm safety concerns. The highest percentage of farm accidents to children occur to farmers' own children.

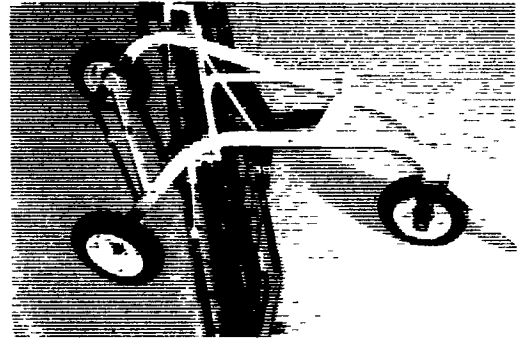
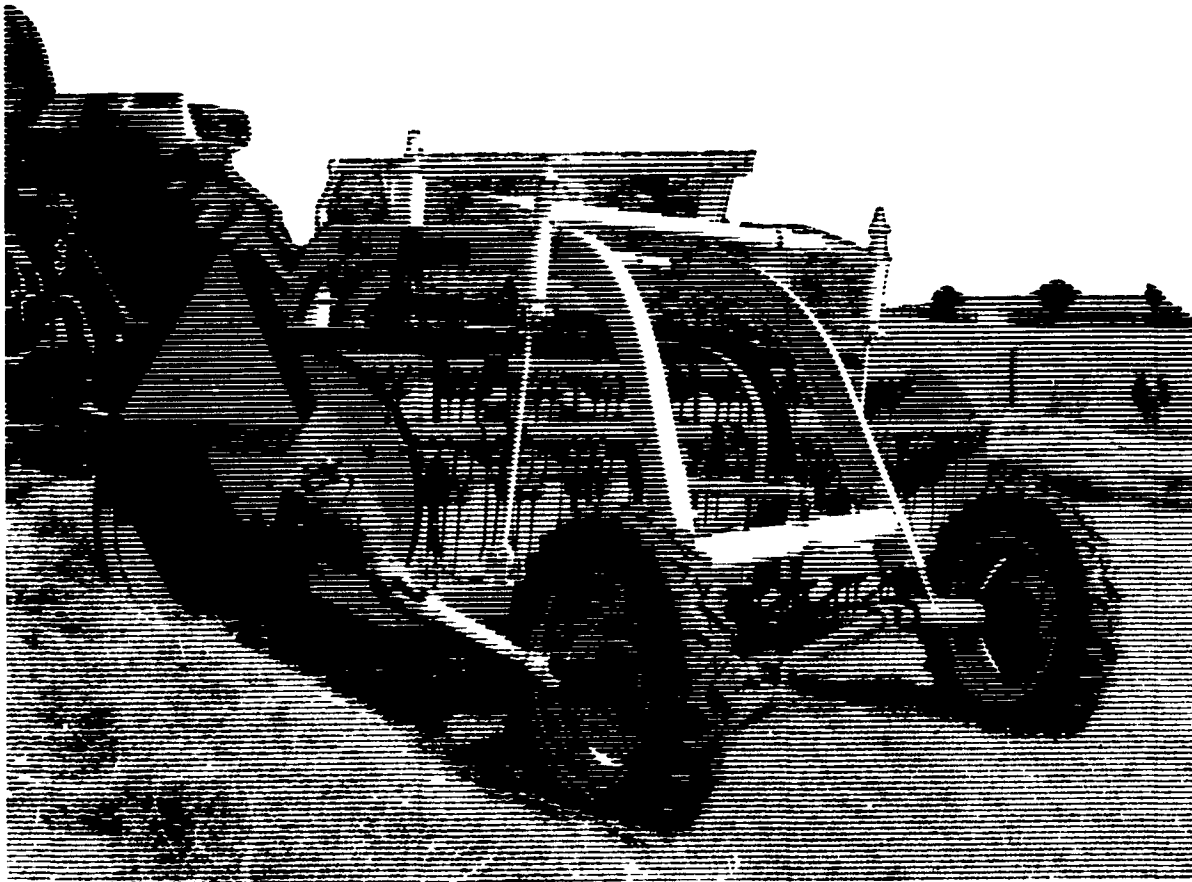
Course material will cover tractor controls, instruments, maintenance, and safety checks as well as starting and stopping. The dangers of tractor rollover and corn picker operation will be emphasized.

Tractor safety on the road, an increasing problem in Chester

County, will be discussed. Machinery operation will include the use of hitches, PTO, and hydraulics. Students will have time to practice driving a tractor and the final session will include both a written and a driving test.

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