

12/04/2022

Farmhand injured by front-end loader

13 February 2022

A 22-year-old farmhand was preparing animal feed in the bucket of a front-end loader when the loader moved forward crushing the farmhand between it and the pallets of packaged mineral supplement.



Location of incident



Front-end loader involved in incident

Safety information

Machinery accounts for a high proportion of farm injuries or fatalities with tractor accidents being highly represented in farm injury and fatality statistics.

Implement 'reasonably practicable' control measures to manage the risks related to working with and around farm machinery.

Make sure:

- plant and machinery are inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations
- any inspection, maintenance or testing is completed by a competent person, and recorded for future reference
- workers have the necessary training, experience and supervision to identify hazards, and control the risks associated with the uncontrolled movement and general operation of mobile plant.

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing and the findings are not yet confirmed. SafeWork NSW has commenced an investigation in response to the incident to determine its cause and circumstances. No conclusions should be drawn from the information in this publication about the cause of the incident or the culpability of any party.

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Before operating mobile plant, you:

- must be trained and deemed competent to operate the mobile plant – make sure you understand the operating controls, and the manufacturer's instructions on safe operation and maintenance
- should always conduct pre-start and operational safety checks to confirm the mobile plant is safe to operate, including testing braking systems.

Related information

- [Managing the risks of plant in the workplace](#) – SafeWork NSW Code of Practice
- [Managing the risks of machinery in rural workplaces](#) – SafeWork Australia
- [The A-Z of farm safety](#) – SafeWork NSW
- [Farm machinery fact sheet](#) – SafeWork NSW
- Refer to the Operators Manual - Provided by the plant manufacturer

View the latest incident information releases at safework.nsw.gov.au