

4-H TRACTOR PROJECT GUIDELINES

Helping youth develop life skills is part of the goal of 4-H. The following are suggested guidelines for providing learning experiences in the tractor project area.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL MEMBERS

- * Acquire skills in handling and caring for tractors and machinery.
- * Gain fundamental knowledge of motors and machinery.
- * Become familiar with operator's manual and learn to identify the parts of a tractor.
- * Learn safe tractor operating principles.
- * Participate in a safety inspection tour of members' tractors.
- * Understand what makes an engine run.
- * Participate in a tour to a tractor or machinery manufacturing plant.
- * Learn the basic principles of engine ignition and power transmission.
- * Become familiar with organized procedures for engine trouble shooting.
- * Learn about the different methods of transmitting tractor power.
- * Learn how to make proper connections to implements, including hydraulic controls.
- * Learn about machinery management and become familiar with the factors used in determining the cost of operation.
- * Learn safe tractor and fuel storage practices.
- * Learn about winter care of tractors.
- * Become aware of the number of farm machinery accidents in the community.
- * Learn the principles of lubrication, and become familiar with the different types of lubricants.
- * Understand the fundamentals of preventive maintenance.

4-H bulletins are available from the Cooperative Extension Service office.

There is a fair class for tractor care and safety. The content and complexity of the exhibit should reflect the age of the member and the amount of experience in the project.

Exhibits should illustrate what has been learned. The display could be in the form of a poster, drawing, display of parts, cutaway, notebook or the engines of small farm tractors which have been worked on could also be displayed. These would be test ran at the fair. First year members must exhibit an individual project, second year and above members may work on a group project, but each member must exhibit an individual report, poster, etc., on what was learned from the group exhibit.