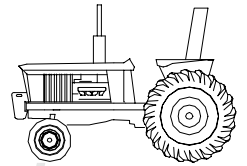




CU Safe



R_x for Ag Safety & Health

Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering

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Spring Cleaning

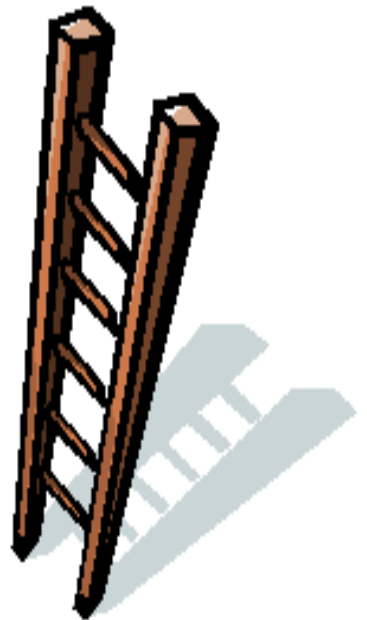
What kind of spring-cleaning do you have to do this year? Do you need to clean your gutters? Do you need to paint your eaves and trim? Do you have a few leaks in your roof that need repairing?

If you answered YES to any of these questions that means you will either be working from a ladder or working on the roof of your house or barn. From either of these two locations, falls are possible.

Falls are the leading cause of unintentional death in the home each year. Approximately 9,600 people die each year to falls in the home. Over 150,000 people are injured each year while using ladders.

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Charles V Privette, III



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CLEMSON
EXTENSION

Farm Safety Mini-Grants Reminder

Proposals will be accepted that address new farm safety programming efforts and those that support current on-going programs. These proposals can be on the county or multi-county level.

Proposals will be accepted until **April 30, 2003**, unless a time extension has been granted.

Questions or inquiries may be directed to Charles Privette, privett@clemson.edu or 864.656.6247.

Home and Farm Safety

Spring Cleaning, Cont. from Page 1.

One source of falls is the ladder. This piece of equipment can be found at most every home and farm. Most ladder accidents are due to using the wrong ladder, failing to inspect the ladder, or from improper use.

The following are a few tips to make using your ladder safer.

Make sure the ladder is of the appropriate length. The ladder should extend 3 feet above the top of the “wall”. You should also use the 1:4 rule. For every 4 feet of “wall” height, the ladder should extend 1 foot from the “wall”.

Never use a metal ladder near overhead power lines.

Inspect the ladder before use (loss or broken rungs, etc).

Set up on firm, level surface.

Use two hands while climbing (always face the ladder).

Do not overreach while on the ladder.



The following are a few tips to make working on the roof safer.

Inspect the condition of the roof and watch your step.

Know where overhead power lines.

Wear proper clothing (sturdy shoes or boots with nonskid soles).

Do not leave tools or other loose objects on the roof.

Forage Safety

Several issues are involved in forage safety. One important issue is tractor safety as tractors are heavily used in the forage production process. We must also keep in mind the power requirements of forage equipment. Because the PTO shaft meets most power needs, PTO safety is also of great concern. As with all equipment, read and follow the operator's manual.

Handling & Storage

Small Square Bales

(Potential Hazards)

- Starts/stops can cause bale handler to fall from truck or trailer. Falls from trucks or trailers can cause serious injury.
- Workers throwing bales onto a truck/trailer can be run over.

(Prevention)

- Pay attention, be careful, and maintain both visual and oral communication between workers.
- While transporting hay, travel at slow speeds and do not ride on hay.



Round Bales

- Use the right equipment to move bales. Equipment should be large enough to handle the bales.
- Bales transported by front-end loaders should be secured to the equipment with bale forks, clamps, or grapples. This prevents a bale from falling or rolling back onto the operator.
- Bales should be transported low and slow.

Other Handling Issues

Weather conditions are a safety issue as well when it pertains to hay handling. Often, temperature and humidity are high and it is sunny. Due to this, workers should avoid prolonged exposure to the elements and take frequent breaks.

Baling

General Balers

- Disengage PTO and shut off tractor before working on balers.
- Keep all safety shields and guards in place.
- Do not hand-feed material into baler.
- Shut down baler and tractor to remove a clog.

Round Baler

- Before raising rear gate, make sure no one is behind baler.
- Discharge bales in a position so they will not roll.
- If the rear gate must be raised, engage the rear gate lock.
- Keep rear gate closed when baler is not being used.



Forage Safety, Continued on Page 4.

Forage Safety, Cont. from Page 3.

Mowers

Rotary or Sicklebar

- Keep hands and feet away from cutterbar when equipment is running.
- Stay clear of equipment while it is running--objects thrown from mowers can cause injury.
- Check for loose, missing or damaged parts.
- To remove clogs or trash, stop, disengage the PTO, and shut the tractor off. Wait for all moving parts to stop; then remove clogs or trash (check for any damaged parts).



Gathering Reels and Conditioning Rolls

- Reels and tines can pull clothing or appendages into equipment. Make sure PTO is disengaged and equipment is off.

This publication is written and designed by Charles V. Privette III. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for future articles, please send to Charles V. Privette III, 224 McAdams Hall, Box 340357, Clemson, SC 29634-0357, privett@clemson.edu, or (864)-656-6247.

This publication can be found at www.clemson.edu/safety/newslett.htm.

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