

Equipment Guarding

Oregon-OSHA Requirements

Division 4, Subdivision O: Equipment Guarding

Employee Training

Every employee should be instructed about the safe operation and servicing of all equipment they will use.

Training Frequency

This training should occur at the time of initial assignment to use equipment and at least annually after. No training documentation is required.

Training Documentation

No training documentation is required.

Training Content

Training should include, at a minimum:

- Keep all guards in place when the machine is in use.
- Permit no riders on farm field equipment other than the person(s) required for instruction or assistance.
- Stop engine, disconnect the power source and wait for all machine movement to stop before servicing, adjusting, cleaning, or unclogging the equipment.
- Instruct employees in the safe procedures necessary to service or maintain the equipment when it must remain running.
- Make sure everyone is clear of machinery before starting the engine, engaging power, or operating the machine.
- Establishment will use lockout/tagout system for any equipment that needs repair and should not be in service; employees should know what the lockout/tagout system is and what labels to look for.

Farm Field Equipment

Power Take-Off Guarding

- Guard all power take-off (PTO) shafts with a master shield or other protective guarding.
- Tractors must have a shield or guard strong enough to support the operator if they get on or off the tractor using the shield as a step.
- There must be signs on tractors and PTO driven equipment to remind operators to keep safety shields in place.

Functional Components

- Guard (as much as possible) all moving parts that must be exposed to operate on farm field equipment. Examples include flail rotors, rotary beaters, mixing augers, conveying augers, rotary tillers, etc.
- Ensure the guard does not interfere with the normal operation of the equipment.

Access to Moving Parts

Ensure that guards, shields, and access doors are in place when equipment is running.

Where removal of a guard will expose an employee to a part that continues to rotate after power is disengaged, provide:

- A readily visible or audible warning of rotation
- A safety sign warning the employee to look and listen for evidence of rotation and not remove the guard until all components stop.