

MAFES Dawg Tracks



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First on the Scene



This is a subject that none of us want to think or talk about, but we never know with any of us when a catastrophe might occur. Over the past months and years, we have discussed first aid and various approaches to farm accidents from rollovers, loss of body appendages or parts caught in or between, etc.

The subject of knowing what action or having a plan of action hasn't been touched on very much.

Unlike automobile accidents, farm rescues are more difficult due to the ruggedness of farm equipment and sometimes poor accessibility to get to the scene. Standard rescue equipment, such as hydraulic rescue tools and metal-cutting saws, can easily remove automobile pieces, but it may not work on the more heavily built agricultural equipment.

WHEN FIRST ON THE SCENE:

- **Designate a leader -**
A senior worker or one who has had first aid/CPR should assume the role of leadership. His responsibility should be to direct the activities or direct the rescue squad until emergency help arrives on the scene.

- **Assign a specific person to call for help-**

This person will need to tell the ambulance the location of the accident or victim, field conditions (muddy, rocky or rough), the type of equipment involved, number of victims involved and the extent of their injuries.

- **Assess the rescue situation –**

Evaluate the situation and develop an escape plan. Stabilize the equipment to minimize the chance for further injury and know the limitations of the equipment and the helpers.

- **Establish a hazard zone –**

Establish a safe zone from bystanders so that rescuers are able to have room to work.

- **Provide emergency first aid –**

Restore breathing and circulation. If bleeding, apply pressure to pressure points. Apply other first aid help as necessary and keep the victim calm. If amputation occurred, locate the appendage and wrap it in a moist towel. Keep it on ice, but don't allow it to freeze. If the appendage happens to be in pieces, locate the pieces and proceed with the same procedure as mentioned above.

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LIVE TO SEE ANOTHER DAY!!
CHANCE TAKERS ARE
ACCIDENT MAKERS!!**