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states who use tractors for which a CROPS prototype has been developed and tested by NIOSH. New York and Virginia were selected because of on-going ROPS retrofit programs within their states and because of their high number of tractor roll over fatalities, well established relationships with NIOSH and its partners, and their states' farm population. The project employs approaches from multiple disciplines and is aimed at different populations to identify the complex set of barriers to the adoption of CROPS. In Phase I - Demonstration, a subset of farmers from the study population will be selected to receive a CROPS at no charge. Each farmer will be asked to demonstrate how to install the CROPS and provide an initial assessment of their perception of the utility and value of the device along with any installation problems/issues. This aspect of the study will provide end-user (customer) feedback to NIOSH and partner researchers on assembly issues for a CROPS design in field conditions. Farmers, potential manufacturers, and local influential community leaders will be invited to observe installation in the field and queried for their perception of the utility and value of the design after the demonstration and one year later.

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#### **National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program**

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The National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program (NSTMOP) was developed with funding from a USDA-CSREES Youth Safety Grant. The objective of the NSTMOP project was to design an effective, efficient and accountable youth farm machinery operation certification program with national uniformity and a single set of economically reproducible instructional materials. The format for the NSTMOP material was guided by input from focus groups, a national steering committee and selected agricultural safety educators. Primary curriculum materials were developed in a task sheet format with student objectives and activities listed and new skill and driving evaluations. Student and instructor evaluations have documented content validity of instructional materials and the program plan. A second USDA-CSREES project developed a national data base to register NSTMOP instructors and students. The data base has been maintained at The Pennsylvania State University and shows 512 registered NSTMOP instructors in 40 US states and two Canadian Provinces. A third USDA-CSREES Youth Safety Grant focused on the development of an on-line training and registration program for new NSTMOP instructors. Registration involved completing a series of on-line training modules orienting instructors to the NSTMOP materials and testing procedures. While the original intent of the NSTMOP project was to provide materials on-line and in a CD, demand for printed material was extremely high. NSTMOP materials remain available on-line at <http://www.nstmop.psu.edu>. They are also available in color print from <http://www.finneyhobar.com>. Data base

management records and publisher sales records indicate the use of NSTMOP materials in states and by instructors not represented in the PSU data base, which is an instructor option. This poster indicates the use of NSTMOP materials by registered instructors by state and province and also indicates areas which are underserved. Future efforts will be made to better serve these areas with NSTMOP materials and programs.

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#### **Youth Risky Behavior Around Tractors – Influence of Significant Others (Father, Mother and Friends)**

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Injury and death rates of youth in farms in the US are particularly high. Operating a tractor on the farm is one of the most basic, yet extremely risky practices. Machinery (tractors) is the leading cause of fatal farm injuries to youth less than 20 years of age. This study explores whether youth's adoption of on farm safety practices is related to perceived support for engaging in those behaviors from significant others including parents and friends. This paper presents preliminary data from a youth farm injury prevention research study funded by NIOSH. Sixty farm families participated. Youth ages ranged from 10 through 19 years. Regression analysis revealed youth who thought their friends would think less of them if they practiced certain safety behaviors related to tractors; were more likely to engage in unsafe (risky) behaviors while working around tractors on farms. Unsafe tractor behaviors included operating ROPS tractor without a seatbelt, dismounting a tractor with tractor running or with key in ignition, giving someone a ride on tractor, starting a tractor while not in an operator's seat and, doing work on tractor without doing a safety check. The results further revealed that for youth whose parents (fathers and mothers) placed a high premium on practicing safe tractor-related behaviors on the farm, the youth had lesser intentions, and were far less likely to indulge in risky behaviors around tractors. Regression was significant for the hypothesis that importance placed by parents on safety behaviors negatively affected youth risky behaviors related to tractors. The study reconfirms the role of parents as role models for youth. Results highlight the notion that parents need to give proper guidance to youth, model safe behaviors themselves and set family rules around safe practices related to tractor operations. Further implications of results will be discussed.

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#### **Trends in Tractor Overturn Fatalities and the Prevalence of Roll-Over Protective Structures (ROPS) in the U.S.**

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