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**RISKS OF OVERTURNING OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN  
THE PROCESS OF REVERSING DRIVING**

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Agricultural machine operators of Ukraine are among the workers who are often injured during work. In the process of driving the operator-driver may be in various situations when he has to go in reverse. Driving tractor or other vehicle in reverse is a challenging and dangerous task that can cause serious injury or even death to agricultural workers. Employers and engineers should provide workers with:

- information to recognize hazards;

- vehicles and equipment that operate properly (horns, four-way flashers, backup alarms, mirrors, sensors and cameras);
- training to operate equipment safely;
- training to inspect their farm vehicles and surroundings before driving and after breaks to see if the area is clear.

To prevent the vehicle from overturning, it is necessary to train workers: keep mirrors and cab windows clean; roll down windows and open vehicle's doors to hear shouts; know the vehicle's blind spots – mirrors never show the entire view; have another worker assist the driver to back up; never rest or sleep near farm vehicles; limit walking or working behind vehicles; drive forward instead of backing up, even though it takes more time; look out for/alert other workers when farm vehicles and equipment are nearby.

For the vehicle safety should:

- ensure that workers understand and use hand signals (not verbal commands) when noise or distance is involved.
- never assume that the driver can see other workers.
- when in doubt, do not back up.

Reversing the tractor or vehicle is prohibited: at intersections; at pedestrian crossings; in the tunnels; on bridges, overpasses, overpasses and under them; at railway crossings; in places with visibility of the road in at least one direction less than 100 m; in places of stops of route vehicles. The movement of the vehicle in reverse is permitted, provided that this maneuver is safe and does not interfere with other road users. If necessary, the driver must resort to the help of other persons.

The driver, when he needs to move backwards (towards the traffic flow) for any reason, must take all measures to eliminate possible interference with other road users. First of all, he should: make sure there are no people behind or any obstacles for movement. Do not force participants who have the advantage to change the direction of movement or speed. Reversing is always fraught with danger, since with such a maneuver the visibility from the driver's seat is usually limited. Therefore, if the driver himself is not able to ensure the safety of driving in reverse, it is necessary to resort to the help of other persons. It is important to remember that using the help of other persons does not relieve the driver of responsibility for the safety of the performed maneuver.

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