TRACTOR SITUATION AWARENESS CHECKLIST
Are you a safe driver?

KEY CHECKS PRIOR TO OPERATION

ENVIRONMENT

✓ Location of obstacles/obstructions
✓ Location of other vehicles
✓ Location of people and animals
✓ Location of power lines
✓ Light level
✓ Weather
✓ Ground conditions

PERSONAL

✓ Health/Illness
✓ Stress level
✓ Fatigue level

STATUS CHECK

✓ Oil, fuel, water levels
✓ Tyre pressure

✓ Brakes
✓ Position of switches

✓ Position of throttle
✓ Lights and indicators

✓ Need for maintenance
✓ Faulty parts

TRACTOR PERFORMANCE

✓ Stability and balance
✓ Tractor speed

✓ Stability and weight of implements

✓ Security of tractor load/trailer

SAFETY CHECK

✓ PTO guard & safety chains
✓ First aid kit

✓ Hitch safety & security
✓ Mobile phone/radio

✓ Seatbelt
✓ All items secured in cab

SITUATION AWARENESS IS A KEY SKILL FOR ALL DRIVERS.
This checklist should help you enhance the three levels of situation awareness:

PERCEPTION: Noticing what is going on around you.

COMPREHENSION: Using your training and experience to weigh-up the situation.

ANTICIPATION: Thinking ahead to identify potential problems and act to stay safe.

SITUATION AWARENESS REQUIREMENTS
(what you need to know before you begin work):

✓ Environmental conditions
✓ Personal status/health
✓ Tractor status
✓ Tractor performance
✓ Mental map of farm
✓ Task requirements

TIPS

TALK: Share information with friends, colleagues and family.

PLAN AHEAD: Think about what you need to stay safe.

CHECK: Your surroundings, equipment and yourself.
SITUATION ASSESSMENT:

The following factors are some of the possible issues that could lead to a loss of situation awareness, increasing the risk of accident or injury.

If any of these issues are present tick the **NO-GO** box and **STOP, THINK and TAKE ACTION** to resolve the problem or reduce the issue, before you begin work.

Possible actions might include delaying the task, getting more equipment, fixing broken parts, considering alternative actions, getting more information.

### VISIBILITY *(can you see everything you need to?)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Vision in tractor cab</strong> <em>(dirty windows, poor mirror placement, view blocked)</em></th>
<th>GO AHEAD</th>
<th>NO-GO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment <em>(darkness, poor visibility due to weather, glare from sun)</em></td>
<td>GO AHEAD</td>
<td>NO-GO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lighting</strong> <em>(tractor lights working, poor exterior lighting)</em></td>
<td>GO AHEAD</td>
<td>NO-GO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ROUTE / TERRAIN *(do you know the hazards?)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Road travel</strong> <em>(tractor not road worthy, high volume of traffic, long journey)</em></th>
<th>GO AHEAD</th>
<th>NO-GO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Terrain</strong> <em>(don’t know terrain well, possibility of hidden obstacles)</em></td>
<td>GO AHEAD</td>
<td>NO-GO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed elements</strong> <em>(don’t know position of fixed objects such as power lines, barriers etc.)</em></td>
<td>GO AHEAD</td>
<td>NO-GO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PERSONAL *(are you fit to drive?)*

| **Illness** *(headache, blurred vision, nausea, medication side-effects)* | GO AHEAD | NO-GO |
| **Fatigue** *(tiredness, lack of sleep, long hours)* | GO AHEAD | NO-GO |
| **Safety** *(lack of first aid kit, no phone or radio)* | NO-GO | |

### MANAGING THE TASK *(do you have the time and equipment you need?)*

| **Distractions** *(loud music, playing games on phone, stress)* | GO AHEAD | NO-GO |
| **Task management** *(lack of time, rushing, missing equipment)* | GO AHEAD | NO-GO |
| **Tractor** *(unfamiliar with vehicle, not used implements before)* | NO-GO | |

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