

## **Tips for “Can All Tractors Be Fitted with ROPS?”**

### **Content**

This activity is designed to foster discussions between farm children and their parents about the risks of tractor overturns and the advantages of retrofitting farm tractors with Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS). The activity is in three parts. First, students access the Internet and read summaries of fatal overturn cases that happened in Kentucky. Then they answer questions about the stories. Second, students print and take home worksheets to be completed with parents or other family members and then returned to teachers. Third, students again use the Internet to access information about the tractors in the stories as well as information about availability of ROPS for the tractors on their farms. The completed exercises are then returned to the students to be taken home and discussed with parents.

### **Objectives**

The purpose of the exercise is to:

- Actively engage students in meaningful activities about ROPS and farm tractor safety
- Foster communication between students and their parents/family members regarding ROPS and farm tractor safety
- Engage students in interesting and useful Internet research about tractor overturns, ROPS, and ROPS retrofits
- Allow students and parents to determine if the tractors on their farms, or on their relatives' farms, can be retrofitted with ROPS

### **Intended Audiences**

- Students in grades 6 –12
- Elementary and middle school teachers who plan instructional activities for children
- Family members who discuss the exercise at home with the students
- Other farm groups who want to know which specific older tractors can be retrofitted with ROPS

## **How to Use These Materials**

Read these tips and look through the materials.

## **Materials Needed**

- Access to a computer and the Internet
- Multiple copies of the “Can All Tractors Be Fitted with ROPS?” The complete exercise is available on line at  
<http://www.kiprc.uky.edu/workplace/test/instruct.pdf>
- A list of local farm equipment dealers who can provide ROPS retrofits for various model of tractors

## **Discussion Questions**

1. Do you know of anyone who was injured or killed in a tractor overturn?
2. During an overturn, how does the combination of a ROPS and seat belt protect the tractor driver?
3. Does your family talk about farm safety?
4. Has your family thought about buying a ROPS for a tractor that doesn't have one?
5. What safety rules do you have on your farm?
6. What should your family do if a tractor cannot be retrofitted with a ROPS?