

ABSTRACT

Tractor front linkages which have lateral freedom of movement are often unstable when used with ground engaging implements. If the linkage is made rigid, steering becomes difficult. Front linkage-implement combinations are shown to be stable only if the linkage is forward-converging and the ratio of the directional force constant (the side force exerted by the soil per unit of slip angle of the implement) to the draught force exceeds a critical value determined by the linkage-implement geometry.

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