

Roll-over Protection on Tractors



Queensland legislation requires tractors at workplaces (including schools) manufactured after 1 January 1981 to be fitted with a Roll-over Protective Structure (ROPS).

Even if the tractor is built before this date, Workplace Health and Safety Queensland strongly recommends you install ROPS.

In the agricultural industry, tractors have been involved in more accidents which have resulted in death or injury than any other piece of rural machinery.

ROPS are designed and constructed to protect the tractor operator during a roll-over in any direction. Where the tractor is fitted with a seatbelt, it should be worn by the operator when the tractor is moving. This provides additional protection in the event of a tractor rolling over by keeping the driver within the protective zone provided by the ROPS.

The Education Policy and Procedures Register (EPRR) clearly addresses the issue of ROPS under the section Hazard Reduction within the Curriculum Activity Module for Tractor Driving - [HLS-PR-012: Activity Risk Management](#). It states "Slopes and hillsides should be avoided wherever possible to reduce the chances of tractor rollover. Rollover protection structures should be fitted to all tractors".

What should schools do?

Check existing tractors to ensure they are fitted with a suitable ROPS and ensure that when purchasing tractors they are fitted with ROPS at the time of purchase.

ROPS must comply with Workplace Health and Safety Queensland recommendations. A catalogue of ROPS can be obtained by contacting [Workplace Health and Safety Queensland](#) on 1300 369 915.

More information

Workplace Health & Safety Queensland website links:

ROPS: <http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/subjects/tractors/rops/index.htm>

Tractor Safety: <http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/subjects/tractors/>

Contact:

Property Management Unit, Facilities Services Branch on telephone number (07) 3237 1699.