Power Take Off (PTO) Infographic



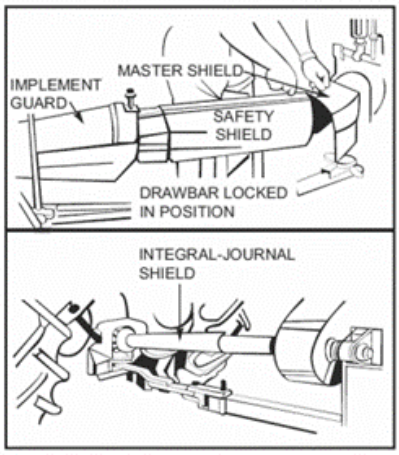
AGRICULTURAL SAFETY TOPICS
POWER TAKE OFF (PTO)

Objective:

To become aware of the dangers of the PTO system, and to learn to use the system safely.

Background:

Keep **safety shields** securely fastened on equipment. Safe operation of the PTO is not possible without these shields in place. A sudden slip or fall could throw a worker directly onto the unshielded rotation shaft. Also those who are unfamiliar with the equipment may not recognize the danger of the power shaft.



Most power shafts can be extended. These shafts are usually constructed with a square shaft inserted into a housing or casing. It is important that at least 5 1/2 inches (14 cm) of the sliding shaft remain in the housing when the power shaft is connected to the tractor. This reduces the possibility of the shafts separating while the tractor is in motion. If the shaft splits, the portion of the shaft connected to the tractor is free to whirl at high speeds, endangering the worker and tractor. If the shaft does separate, disengage the PTO immediately and stop the tractor. Use extreme caution when operating equipment with a separable PTO shaft. Never hook 540 rpm equipment to a 1000 rpm PTO or vice-versa.

Use caution when working with PTO Equipment

- Disengaging the PTO before getting off a tractor reduces the chance of slipping or falling onto a rotating shaft or getting caught in a moving part.
- Integral shields should move freely. When the power is off, the shield should easily rotate by hand.

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