

## LESSON 10: Skid Steer Loader, Telehandler, and Forklift Truck Operation

- A. Skid steer loaders in agricultural production
  - 1. Compact loaders
  - 2. Material handling
  - 3. Powered attachments
- B. Telehandlers
  - 1. Extensive reach
  - 2. Multiple attachments
  - 3. Material handling
- C. Forklifts or fork trucks
  - 1. Widely used on farms
  - 2. Material handling with pallets
  - 3. Propane or electric powered machines for indoor use
  - 4. Highly maneuverable
- D. Hazards associated with skid steer loaders, forklifts, and telehandlers
  - 1. Crushed by lift arms
  - 2. Thrown or falling objects
  - 3. Overhead hazards
  - 4. Limited visibility
  - 5. Working in unventilated spaces
  - 6. Runovers, rollovers
- E. Important safety features
  - 1. Hydraulic locks
  - 2. Lap bar and seat belt
  - 3. FOPS and ROPS
  - 4. Unbreakable windows/screens
  - 5. Outriggers on telehandlers
  - 6. Backup alarms
  - 7. Mirrors and cameras
  - 8. Guards
- F. Pre-operational procedures
  - 1. Dress for the job
  - 2. Read operator's manual
  - 3. Check surroundings, do a walk around
  - 4. Use steps and hand holds
  - 5. Fasten seat belt and lower seat bar, if equipped
  - 6. Familiarize yourself with controls
- G. Skid steer attachments
  - 1. Buckets
  - 2. Rotary mowers
  - 3. Pallet forks
  - 4. Grapple
  - 5. Bale fork
  - 6. Post hold digger
- H. Operating a skid steer loader
  - 1. Avoid uneven terrain
  - 2. Use smooth movement of controls
  - 3. Adjust throttle
  - 4. Drive straight or down steep slopes
- I. Operating a telehandler
  - 1. Keep chassis level
  - 2. Comply with load limits
- J. Regulations
  - 1. Forklift cannot be operated by youth under 16 for hire – certification required
  - 2. Backup alarms may be required
- K. Transporting equipment
  - 1. Load only on level surfaces
  - 2. Use low angle ramps
  - 3. Load with heavy end first
  - 4. Secure all loads regardless of distance to be transported

