



## Why is the Operator's Manual the Most Important Component of a Tractor?

Take the guess out of operating a tractor by using the operator's manual. The operator's manual explains the instruments and their functions and explain the proper responses to abnormal readings.

In this activity the students will refer to the operator's manual to determine and explain the layouts for instrument panels and the meaning of various symbols that may be displayed on the instrument panel. Some instruments are simple gauges while others are detailed digital readouts. Some newer tractors include a combination of analog and digital gauges. This activity can be used to cover the concepts of slides 8-11 and 14-19.

### Procedure

1. Split class into several groups.
2. Locate as many operator manuals as possible. One for each group. Hint check with your local dealership. Can all be for the same model tractor. May have to make copies of the necessary pages from one manual.
3. If possible, have a tractor that matches the operator manual. May have to take pictures of the controls of that tractor or may use the attached of controls from slides 8-11 or make your own.
4. Depending on your goals have the groups look up various scenarios to identify controls either on the tractor or in a picture. Also have them look up the meaning of the symbols you put on the tractor.
5. Make a handout that displays symbols that are referenced in the operator's manual. May use attached from slides 18 or 19 or make your own.
6. Depending on your goals have the groups look up various scenarios to identify symbols on the handout.

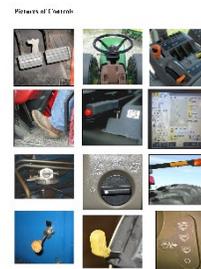
### Materials Needed



Operator's manual



Pictures of Symbols handout (optional)

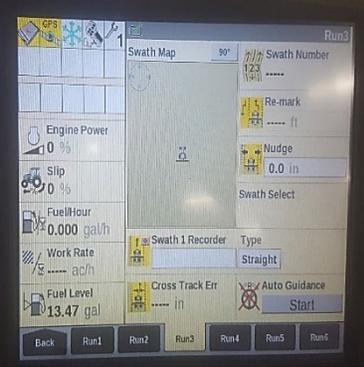


Pictures of Controls handout (optional)



Tractor (optional)

# Pictures of Controls



**Pictures of Symbols**

