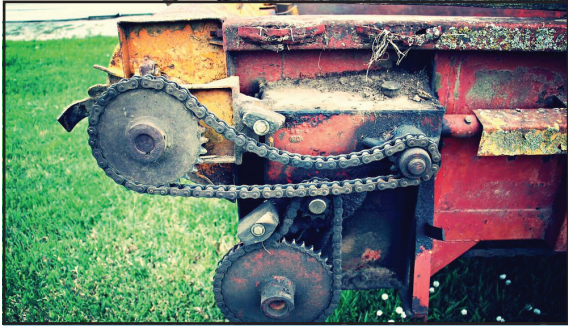


# Used Equipment - Safety is Just as Important as Savings



**Your safety should be priority #1 when making a purchasing decision. Missing guards put you at risk; consider the cost of replacement guarding when buying used equipment.**

Used farm equipment is widely available today through dealers, private sales, and auctions. Purchasing used equipment can be an economical option, but safety is also an important consideration. Machinery causes many injuries and fatalities on farms, so always keep the following tips in mind to find safe, dependable equipment:

## Match the equipment to your needs

Create a list of tasks that you want to do with your desired machinery and look for models that can perform them safely.

## Look for built-in safety features

With tractors, always opt for a wide front wheelbase, which will offer more stability than a narrow, tricycle type front end. Look for a two-post rollover protective structure (ROPS) or cab with four post ROPS, with seatbelt. Check for a ROPS certification plate so you know the cab or structure meets testing standards to protect the operator in the event of a rollover. If you are looking at equipment that does not have one, contact the National ROPS Rebate Program

([www.ropstr4u.org](http://www.ropstr4u.org)) to see if there is a retrofit available and you could add a ROPS after purchase inexpensively.

## Observe lack of maintenance or signs of damage

Check for obvious leaks, dents, cracks, broken parts, or poor patch jobs.

Make sure that gauges and lights are operational.

Look for recently greased fittings and check the condition of filters to give you a clue as to whether regular maintenance is being performed on the equipment.

## Check operator ergonomics

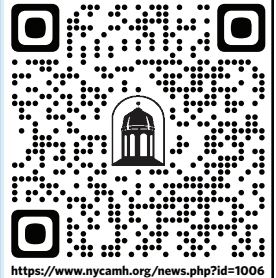
Get into the operator's seat and make sure you can comfortably get on and off the equipment with the steps and handholds present.

## Request the operator's manual

Ask if the operator's manual is available for the equipment. If the seller does not have it, this may be a sign that regular maintenance has not been occurring.

While cost is an important factor when purchasing equipment, your safety is priceless. These tips will help you find equipment that meets your budget and your safety needs.

**Want to read more?** The full article by Farm Services Navigator, Christina Day, is available on our website. Scan the QR code to see even more helpful hints for purchasing used equipment with safety in mind.



<https://www.nycamh.org/news.php?id=1006>

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# Spring Shop Safety

On the farm, repairs never seem to end. Whether scheduled maintenance or unexpected breakdowns, the farm shop is often in business all-year-round. Remember that safety measures are also an all-year-round goal. We have compiled some best practices for shop safety that could keep you safer in your shop. How many of these do you already implement in your shop?

- Keep the work area clean and clear of clutter. This lets everyone know that this area is essential and should be kept clean. It reduces the chance of slips, trips, and falls, too.
- Many shop hazards involve eye injuries. Use proper personal protective equipment (PPE), such as safety goggles that cover the eyes completely. Remember hearing protection and respiratory protection when appropriate, too.
- Machinery and equipment should be kept clean, with guards in place. If a guard is missing, substitute it with a correctly fitting aftermarket replacement.
- All lofts need proper steps with railings; keep debris and clutter off the steps.
- Safety doesn't end in the field; even in the shop, you should only start a tractor or other self-propelled equipment from the operator's seat.
- When using an oxy-acetylene torch, be sure that all trashcans are a safe distance away. Be sure the tanks are securely chained to something that will not tip – it's the law. Your hot metals area should not be near storage or disposal areas. Keep hoses out from under the steel you are cutting.
- Know the amperage you are using to avoid overloading circuits.
- Fire extinguishers should be in plain view with unhindered access. Place ABC-type extinguishers near exits and hazards.
- Keep a well-stocked first aid kit in plain view and review the items with shop personnel.
- Dress for success; clothing should be tight fitting, nothing loose or dangling. Watches, rings, and jewelry can be caught, causing injuries. Long hair should be tied up, and non-slip footwear is best.



Keeping your shop clutter-free shows the importance of this area on your farm—slips, trips, and falls, along with eye injury, are among the most common shop-related injuries.

How did you do? Hopefully, you learned a new tip or were reminded to correct something in the shop. Do you have a tip for us? Drop us a line at [info@nycamh.org](mailto:info@nycamh.org); we would love to hear how you are keeping safe!

# Fit Test Clinics Around NY

Farm Respirator Fit Test Clinics are happening all over the state; don't miss out! A few clinics have already come and passed, but the remaining dates include:

Date	Time	County	Location
March 29	9 am - 2 pm	Yates	Branchport Fire Department
April 1	9 am - 1 pm	Columbia	Golden Harvest, Valatie
April 3 - 4	April 3: 1 pm - 5 pm April 4: 8 am - 12 pm	Orleans	CCE Orleans County, Albion
April 17	9 am - 4 pm	Suffolk	CCE Suffolk, Riverhead
May 15 - 16	May 15: 1 pm - 4 pm May 16: 8 am - 11 am	Orange	Pine Island Fire House, Pine Island

If you have any questions, or want more information, please contact NYCAMH at **800-343-7527** or email us at **FitTest@bassett.org**

## NYCAMH Happenings

NYCAMH has welcomed three new staff members, each adding expertise in serving farmers and farmworkers across the state. We are pleased to welcome:

**Erica Gould**- Erica is a Research Assistant, who is currently working on Injury Surveillance research as well as assisting the John May Farm Safety Fund. She comes to NYCAMH from Massachusetts with experience in skills training and clinical case management.



**New NYCAMH Staff Members (L-R): Erica Gould, Mitzi Sackett, Sarah Welsh**

**Mitzi Sackett**- Mitzi is the Outreach Services Coordinator for Respirator Fit Testing, Game of Logging, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) sales. She is a Delaware County native and brings a strong plant science and organizational psychology background to NYCAMH.

**Sarah Welsh**- Sarah is an On-Farm Safety Educator, working with farmers across the state, as well as conducting youth outreach activities.

We are so grateful to have each of them join our team!



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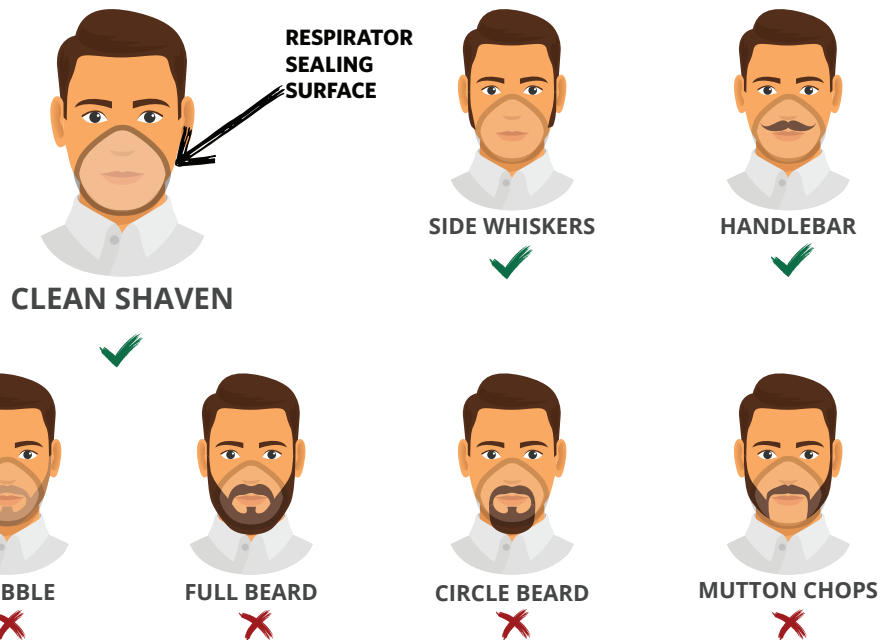
Contact us today at **(877)767-7748** or email **info@ropsr4u.org**.

## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

### Properly Fit Your Mask

Too much hair can let in air (and don't forget it matters where)!

Check out some common facial hair styles and how they can affect a proper seal on your mask:



This graphic may not include all types of facial hairstyles. For any style, hair should not cross under the respirator sealing surface.

Source: OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard  
[https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=standards&p\\_id=12716](https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=standards&p_id=12716)  
Further Reading: NIOSH Respirator Trusted-Source Webpage  
[https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp\\_part/respsource3fittest.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/respsource3fittest.html)

Do you have a safety topic that you want to see more of? Let us know at **info@nycamh.org** or call us at **(800)343-7527**.