

John Deere Gator Operation

Safe Operating Procedures | Almond farms | English transcript

General information only. Your host will provide the exact site procedure, machine instructions, PPE requirements and practical training before you start work. This video does not authorise equipment operation.

0:04 Before you start

This video provides general information for workers on almond farms. Before you start work, your host employer will explain the exact safe operating procedure, machine instructions and personal protective equipment required at your site. This video supports training. It does not replace practical training, assessment, supervisor sign-off or a training record. English is the authoritative version.

0:39 Step 1

Training and Safety

Potential risk.

Workers unsure of the process may lead to unwanted events which may result in injury, fatality or damage to equipment.

Risk treatment.

At the end of this training which includes the practical component if you are unsure of the process do not proceed contact your Supervisor and the Orchard Manager immediately

If at any time during this process you feel unsafe you are authorised and expected to stop

Contact your Supervisor and the Orchard Manager immediately

1:17 Step 2

Pre-start/safety meeting

Potential risk.

Employees not aware of traffic management requirements may lead to serious collision resulting in injury to operator and damage to equipment

Poor communication when machinery is moved from block to block

Employees with language barriers may not understand traffic management plans

Employees taking short cuts through headlands may lead to collisions resulting in injury to employees and damage to equipment

Risk treatment.

Employees MUST attend morning pre-starts in front of the orchard activity board

host employer management MUST communicate traffic routes before the start of each shift

Equipment specific supervisors MUST reiterate traffic management plans to their teams

If there are language barriers an interpreter **MUST** be used to communicate traffic management requirements

If traffic management changes throughout the day host employer management and supervisors are responsible for communicating changes to employees and updating the orchard activity board.

2:31 Step 3

Identify vehicle number to be used and replace matching key with name tag on key board.

Potential risk.

Breakdown/accident without communication or emergency situation headcount.

Use of vehicle not trained on.

Risk treatment.

Replace key tag on key holder

2:55 Step 4

Perform pre-start check on machine.

Check operation of all machine controls including 2 way radio and tyre pressures.

Check you have all required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Positive seal glasses needs to be used by operator and passenger.

Check tire pressures

Potential risk.

Mechanical failure.

Faulty equipment could lead to injury to operators or damage to equipment

Eye injuries from tree branch penetration, dust or other material.

Incorrect tire pressure could lead to the ATU rolling over.

Risk treatment.

Pre-start check must be done every shift.

If a fault is identified that may affect the safe operation of the mule, tag out machine and contact supervisor.

Tyre pressures must be checked as part of the pre-start. Refer to manufacturer's specification for correct tyre pressures. Report all tyre pressure issues immediately to the site Maintenance Controller

4:07 Step 5

Consider activity to be performed. Organise equipment, tools and procedures.

Potential risk.

Accident. Rollover, loss of control or impact

Distractions when operating the Mule

Risk treatment.

Operate machine carefully on inclines, in wet weather, around other vehicles and pedestrians.

Always go straight up or down an incline, do not go across. Monitor visibility and conditions.

Ensure tray is not overloaded (check maximum cargo capacity in operators manual if uncertain) and items are secure.

Always look behind you for obstacles when reversing.

Pets are not permitted to ride on Mules.

4:57 Step 6

John Deere gator runs on Diesel only

Potential risk.

Damage to engine

Risk treatment.

Make sure to only fill with Diesel Fuel

5:08 Step 7

Check that flashing beacon has activated and turn on headlights.

Potential risk.

Impact with other vehicle or passenger.

Risk treatment.

If flashing beacon is not fitted or operational activate hazard lights (if equipped).

Report to Maintenance Controller if beacon does not work. Lodge maintenance request to have flashing beacons installed.

5:37 Step 8

Adjust seat, fasten seat belt and secure door if fitted

Potential risk.

Ejection from seat.

Doors not secured.

Risk treatment.

Seat belt must always be worn when machine is in operation.

Ensure that passengers also fit seat belt before moving off.

All doors must be secured before moving off.

No additional persons are permitted to ride on vehicles unless they are sitting in a proper seat and seat belt is secured.

6:08 Step 9

Apply handbrake, put into neutral gear, start engine and allow to warm up. Confirm that UHF is on and do radio check

Potential risk.

Uncontrolled movement.

Employees being crushed

Risk treatment.

Ensure no people are standing in front or behind when the ATU is started.

Always start machine with foot on brake, hand brake applied and gear in neutral.

6:37 Step 10

Release the machine parking brake and select gear.

Sound horn before moving off.

Depress speed control pedal to commence travelling. Drive to work area. Adhere to Traffic Management Plan

Potential risk.

Impact with other vehicles.

Eye injury from tree branch penetration, dust or other material.

Injuries to operator or passengers

Speeding

Risk treatment.

Operator must understand orchard traffic management plan and follow all site traffic rules. Drive carefully and cautiously.

Ensure all travel is via main tracks and headlands.

Always slow down to a crawling speed when exiting rows into a headland.

Look both ways before entering a headland.

Seat belts must be on and doors secured before entering a headland.

Give way to all vehicles travelling along headlands

Sound horn when nearing pedestrians or vehicles.

Apply brake carefully to avoid loss of control or shifting of loads

7:47 Step 11

During wash down ensure vehicle engine is switched off

Turn off all lights and turn key to off position.

Potential risk.

Water entering air intake and causing engine damage.

Risk treatment.

Switch engine off during washing.

8:09 Step 12

Upon completion off task, park vehicle in designated position away from operating vehicles.

Turn off all lights and turn key to off position.

Apply handbrake.

Potential risk.

Unintended movement.

Impact from other vehicles.

Theft

Unauthorised use of machine.

Injury from door being left open

Risk treatment.

Return vehicle to designated parking area and apply handbrake.

Whenever exiting the Mule the door must be closed.

8:47 Step 13

Remove keys, return to key board and remove name tag to indicate vehicle and operator have returned to hub safely.

Potential risk.

Theft

Unauthorized use of machine.

Risk treatment.

Secure keys as directed by Supervisor.

9:10 Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and experience.

All employees/ workers must be trained, hold relevant licenses, and be assessed as competent before operating any equipment on host employer sites. there must be safety induction records with the workers' name on the records. where licenses are required a copy of this must be on site file or personal file.

9:38 Duties and responsibilities

Duties and responsibilities.

All employees/ workers must adhere to host employer policies and procedures and report any concerns and incidents immediately to their manager/ supervisor. it is the responsibility of both host employer onsite management and contractor companies to identify language barriers and provide interpreters where required.

10:07 Training required

Training required.

All employees/ workers must have been inducted to the site and deemed competent in relevant Safe Operating Procedure and site traffic management plans. site managers must sign off all Safe Operating Procedure before employees/ worker start work on site or equipment. training should be completed by a competent person or training organization.

10:36 Codes of practice and legislation

Codes of practice and legislation.

All employees/ workers must adhere to codes of practice, standards and guideline, whs and ohs acts and regulations.

10:53 Plant, equipment and PPE

Plant, equipment and PPE.

Job specific protective personal equipment (ppe) must be identified and worn when required (i.e. positive sealed goggles with a strap when using compressed air). PPE is a shared responsibility between your host employer and Orchard Tech. Your host employer will provide the PPE required for your task. If the required PPE has not been supplied, stop work and contact Orchard Tech. workers to wear all outdoor ppe where required – wear positive sealed eye protection, gloves, hat, sunburn cream, steel capped boots, long sleeve shirts and long trousers. hi viz clothing must be worn at all times.

11:49 Maintenance checks

Maintenance checks.

If a vehicle, plant, equipment, or machinery is found to be defective or damaged, it must be tagged with 'out of service' tag until repaired and isolation register completed. daily pre-start/ pre-shift checks and post-checks if required are to be completed and recorded in all instances. maintenance teams are responsible for all maintenance on equipment. workers can only undertake maintenance if they have been adequately trained in the relevant process.

12:28 Before work starts

This video provides general information. Before you start work, your host employer will explain the exact procedure and provide practical training for your site. This video does not replace assessment, supervisor sign-off or a training record. If you do not understand something, use the English or talk to your supervisor at the host employer site. The host will provide you with an interpreter.

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