

Agricultural Vehicle Equipment Requirements

SLOW MOVING VEHICLE EMBLEM

- **VTL 375-36 (b)** – Farm machinery and implements of husbandry and other machinery including road construction and maintenance machinery designed to operate at twenty five miles per hour or less, traveling on a public highway during day or night, whether self propelled or used in combination, shall each separately display a slow-moving vehicle emblem as developed and designed by the American Society of Engineers.
- Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem Specifications are defined by Part 68 of the Commissioners’ Rules and Regulations.
- Limited to vehicles traveling at speeds of 25 mph or less.
- Should be mounted, point up, perpendicular to the direction of travel, mounted in the center of the vehicle, un-obscured and 2 to 6 feet above the ground, measured at the bottom edge.
- Should be mechanically fastened (hardware or adhesives), sturdily supported and secured.
- If the emblem can’t be centered, mount left of center line but not over or beyond the left edge of the vehicle.
- If the vehicle bearing the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem is being transported by another vehicle at a speed of greater than 25 mph, the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem must be covered.
- The Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem must be kept clean (Visible from all distances 600 feet to 100 feet away – day light / high beams).
- Illegal to use in any other manner (driveway markers etc).
- Note: The use of the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem shall not replace such warning devices as tail lamps, reflectors, flashing lights, warning flags or flares and the Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem shall not be used as a clearance marker for wide loads or equipment.

Note: A bill has been signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo, taking effect 6-26-2019 that will allow agricultural equipment in some instances to operate up to 39 MPH.

High Speed Tractors / Implements

New York State has adopted the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers Standard - American National Standard Institute / American Society for

Testing and Materials standard S584.3 for the size, design and mounting of a Speed Identification Symbol (SIS). The Speed Identification Symbol (SIS) shall indicate the maximum speed in miles per hour which the farm equipment is designed to operate by its manufacturer.

High Speed Tractor Agricultural Equipment Requirements / Regulations

- High Speed Agricultural Equipment shall be limited to less than 40 MPH while operating on a public highway.
- High Speed Agricultural Equipment shall display an appropriate Speed Identification Symbol (SIS).
- There must be documentation in possession of the operator on the equipment from the manufacturer indicating the top speed for which that equipment was designed.
- If the High-Speed power unit is towing an implement rated for more than 25 mph but less than 40 mph, that implement must display an appropriate corresponding SIS and there must be supporting documentation from the manufacturer in the possession of the operator.
- The maximum combination ground speed shall be limited to the lowest specified speed of any towed implement.
- The maximum travel speed of a High-Speed Power Unit, Implement or Combination shall be the **lowest** of any of the following. Speed rating as specified by manufactures speed rating, the SIS, speed rating limitation of the towed implement or the limit of the existing road conditions. **WHICH EVER IS THE SLOWEST SPEED !**

LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

- Agricultural Vehicles and Equipment must be equipped with lamps of the type approved by the commissioner which are lighted and are in good working order when such equipment is operated, driven, or parked on any public highway or street during

the period of one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise and during such times that visibility for a distance of one thousand feet ahead or behind such agricultural equipment is not clear.

**Regulations of the Commissioner
Part 43 Motor vehicle Lighting**

43.9 Lighting Requirements on Agricultural Equipment

(a) Self-propelled agricultural equipment shall be equipped in accordance with Table V.

Table V – Required Lighting Equipment for self propelled Agricultural Equipment

<i>Item</i>	<i>Number and Color</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>Head lamps</i>	<i>two, white</i>	<i>front –same level as far apart as practicable</i>
<i>Tail lamps</i>	<i>one, red</i>	<i>rear, as far to left as Practicable</i>
<i>Combined hazard Warning and turn Signal lamps</i>	<i>two, amber</i>	<i>at least (42 inches high) same level as far apart as practicable, visible front and rear</i>
<i>Rear reflectors</i>	<i>two, red</i>	<i>rear, same level as far apart as practicable</i>

(b) reserved for towed, mounted or semi mounted agricultural implements

(c) this section shall apply only when the agricultural equipment is used on the public highway from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise, or any other time that visibility for a distance of 1000 feet ahead or behind the agricultural equipment is not clear. At other times, no lighting is required on agricultural equipment

(d) nothing in this Part shall be construed as effecting the requirement of vehicle and traffic law, section 375, sub division 36 and Part 68 of this Chapter that agricultural equipment display the slow – moving vehicle emblem

Dimensional Requirements

FARMERS

(Vehicles used solely for farm purposes and in use / possession by the farmer)

- Vehicles and implements or combinations thereof, **not over 12 feet in width** and used solely for farm purposes are permitted on public highways, except upon any highway at any time on which operation is prohibited by the department of transportation. (Thruway, Interstate Highways and other highways as deemed by the Commissioner).
- Vehicle and implements or combinations thereof, **between 12 feet and up to 17 feet in width** used solely for farm purposes are permitted on public highways, when meeting the following requirements.
 - The vehicle and implement or combination thereof is operated during the period from one half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset; **AND**
 - Red or orange fluorescent flags not smaller than 18 inches square, and reflectors are placed on the extreme corners of the load **AND**
 - Two flashing amber lights in compliance with the regulations prescribed by the commissioner of transportation are attached to the rear of the load or, if the vehicle hauling such implement is equipped with hazard lights which is visible from the rear of the load, such lights are flashing; **AND**
 - If the vehicle or load extends beyond the centerline of a highway or if the vehicle is being operated during any time when, due to rain, sleet, snow, hail, fog, insufficient light, or any other reason, visibility for a distance of one thousand feet ahead is not clear, the vehicle is preceded by an escort vehicle which is equipped with a warning sign and flashing lights in compliance with regulations prescribed by the commissioner of transportation. (*Flashing lights to be minimum 6 inches in diameter – maximum 9 inches in diameter - mounted on the extreme corners of the load, between 5 feet and 7 feet above the ground .– amber lens – with a white bulb, not more than 50 candle power, visible for a distance of at least 1000 feet. Over width sign to be black letters on yellow back ground, stating “OVERSIZED LOAD”, sign to be 7 feet wide, 18 inches high with 10 inch lettering and a brush stroke of 1.41 inches*).
 - Agricultural vehicles and implements between 12 feet and 17 feet in width are not permitted on highways as prohibited by the department of transportation. (Thruway, Interstate Highways any other highways deemed by the Commissioner).

17 feet in width and greater – must first obtain an oversized permit from NY State DOT, the respective County, City, or Town DOT.

- Racks for carrying hay, straw or unthreshed grain may have a width of ten feet at the top of the rack. In no case shall the width at the base of the rack exceed one hundred two inches nor shall

the width of the rack exceed one hundred two inches at any portion thereof while on any qualifying highway.

- The height of a vehicle from the underside of the tire to the top of the vehicle, inclusive of load, shall not be more than thirteen and one-half feet. Any damages to highways, bridges, or highway structures resulting from a vehicle greater than thirteen feet in height shall be compensated for by the owner and the operator of such vehicle.

FARM EQUIPMENT DEALERS

(Vehicles used solely for farm purposes when owned or in the possession by farm equipment dealers)

- Vehicles and implements or combinations thereof, **not over 13 feet in width** and used solely for farm purposes are permitted on public highways, except upon any highway at any time on which operation is prohibited by the department of transportation. (Thruway, Interstate Highways and other highways as deemed by the Commissioner).
- Allows dealers to move equipment up to **13 feet in width** on another vehicle as a load.

13 feet in width and wider – must first obtain an oversized permit from NY State DOT, the respective County, City, or Town DOT.

Operation of Agricultural Equipment by Youths

- Operating a tractor over 20 PTO horse power, or connecting or disconnecting an implement or any of its parts to or from such tractor is deemed a “Hazardous Occupation in Agriculture” for minors – youths. Additional Hazardous Occupations in Agriculture include, operating or working with a corn picker, grain combine, hay mower, forest harvester, hay baler, potato digger, mobile pea viner, trencher, earth mover, fork lift, potato combine as well as other farm tasks not listed here.
- Youths ages 16 and above may work in any farm job at any time.
- Youths of any age may work at any time on any job on a farm owned or operated by their parents.

- Minors age 14 and 15 who hold Certificates of Completion of Training under a 4-H or vocational agriculture training program may work outside school hours on certain equipment for which they have been trained.
- 14 and 15 year old students enrolled in vocational agricultural programs are exempt from certain hazardous occupations when certain requirements are met.
- Farmer employing age 14 and 15 year old minors must keep a copy of the Certificate of Training on hand with a copy of the minor's records.
- Federal Labor Law violations involving youth employment may result in fines up to \$11,000 for each youth employment violation.
- Note: An employer / employee relationship exists between parents and their children who work on the farm
- For additional information reference youth employment in the agricultural field – www.wagehour.dol.gov or call 1-866-487-9243 - reference Fact Sheet # 40: Federal Youth employment Laws in Farm Jobs.
- Also ref: New York State Department of Labor – Minimum Wage Order for Farm Workers, including Occupations in Agriculture Particularly Hazardous for the Employment of Children below the Age 16 - Part 190 of title 12 Of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations.

Vehicles drawn by Animals

- Must display a Slow Moving Vehicle Sign **OR**
- A lighted lantern with a red lens at least 4 inches in diameter, the center to be 42 inches above the ground, the lantern to be near the left edge **AND** at least 72 square inches of a high quality white or whitish-gray reflective tape.

Note: Last updated April 25, 2019. For additional information contact the New York State Police Troop “D” Traffic section at (315) 366-6036.