



CHECKLIST

Work health and safety

Farm vehicle pre-purchase checklist – choosing the right vehicle for the job

The safest vehicle is the one best suited to the job. The information in this table may assist you in selecting the safest vehicle for different jobs or conditions on your farm. However, it is intended as a general guide only. Before you buy, talk to your vehicle dealers about your own farming situation and read the vehicle manufacturer’s recommendations to ensure the vehicle is suitable for task/circumstance.

Vehicle use	Two wheeled farm bike	Quad bike	Side-by-side utility vehicle	Ute or four wheel drive	Small truck	Small farm tractor
Working on farm:						
Inspecting farm and stock				FWD		
Mustering of stock				FWD		
Spraying		1				
Maintenance work						
Carriage of goods:						
Light tools, equipment and dogs		2				
Bulky loads and stock						
Light, low or secured loads						
Heavy, high or unsecured loads						
Passengers						
Ground conditions:						
Sealed roads 4						
Steep uneven terrain				FWD		
Flat or gentle sloping terrain						
Hard surfaces						
Soft or muddy				FWD		
Rider capability:						
Inexperienced/untrained on farm		5				
Elderly – reduced strength						
Towing:						
Narrow or small trailer		3				
Wide or heavy trailer						

- Vehicle is appropriate for this task/circumstances if used safely
- Vehicle could be used but an alternative vehicle could perform better or be safer
- Caution – Vehicle may not be the safest vehicle for the task or in these circumstances

Notes:

1. Must be a spray unit purpose built for use on a quad bike, and preferably with baffles in tank. Unit total weight (including fluid) must not exceed quad bike manufacturer’s carrier limits.
2. Appropriate to carry up to two dogs only.
3. Only use small trailer purpose built for use with a quad bike with low pressure quad bike type tyres fitted. Do not exceed quad bike manufacturer’s towing limits.
4. Conditional registration may be required when travelling on or beside sealed roads and other public roads – contact your local vehicle registration authority.
5. Ensure children do not operate adult sized quad bikes.

Adapted from Guidelines for the safe use of quad bikes in agriculture, Department of Labour, Health and Safety, New Zealand

Disclaimer

This publication may contain occupational health and safety and workers compensation information. It may include some of your obligations under the various legislations that WorkCover NSW administers. To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate legislation.

Information on the latest laws can be checked by visiting the NSW legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

This publication does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law as it applies to particular problems or to individuals or as a substitute for legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice if you need assistance on the application of the law to your situation.

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