



Notification Reference:	2024-15	Health and Safety
B1 clearance date:	17 September 2024	Executive
Contact for further details:	wayne.owen@hse.gov.uk	

INITIAL NOTIFICATION - AGRICULTURAL FATALITY

- Issued by HSE's Agricultural Sector to Farm Safety Partnership and AIAC members, to assist timely promotion of key health and safety messages.
- The details are based on initial notification and media coverage and do not fully reflect the detailed circumstances of the incident. The death has been treated as work related BUT this will be subject to further assessment.
- The links to existing H&S guidance are to help recipients to promote health and safety and should not be taken to imply details of cause of the incident.

Incident summary as notified to HSE or reported in the media

Date of incident	02/09/2024
Geographic area	Kent
General nature of incident	Transport Related (Excavator Overturn)

Brief details of incident

Initial notification is that a worker was killed when the excavator that he was using overturned.

Links to relevant published guidance (HSE and Partnership publications)

HSE has published the following guidance:

- [Overturning tractors and other self-propelled vehicles - Agriculture - HSE](#)
- [Farmwise HSG270 \(hse.gov.uk\)](#)
- [What a good farm looks like \(hse.gov.uk\)](#)

Key messages for FSP/AIAC members to promote

Tractor and machinery overturns are a significant cause of death and serious injury in farming. The risks are well known and should be managed.

Key messages are:

- With few exceptions, agricultural tractors and other machinery must be fitted with a suitable safety cab or roll bar (roll over-protective structure (ROPS)). A seat or lap belt should be fitted and used.
- Farm machinery and equipment should be well maintained and only be driven by trained, competent and authorised people.
- Vehicle overturns can happen in many situations, not just on slopes.
- Drivers must know safe driving techniques to avoid overturns.
- Consider differences between vehicles and how attachments and load can change the handling characteristics. Always use safe systems of work when working on or near slopes.
- Work on sloping ground, and access routes to follow between work sites, must be planned, and altered if necessary if conditions change (e.g. rain reduces traction).

Link to known media report – None