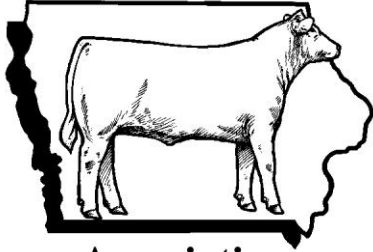


Iowa Cattlemen's



Association

Parameters for Implements of Husbandry

ICA Fact Sheet

April 2013

Implements of Husbandry

An implement of husbandry is a vehicle or special mobile equipment designed or reconstructed for agricultural purposes and used exclusively in agricultural operations. Implements of husbandry may be self-propelled or towed vehicles, and may or may not include the following:

- Combines
- Farm tractors, wheeled or tracked
- Fertilizer and chemical applicators
- Fence-line feeders
- Grain carts
- Gravity-flow grain wagons
- Tank wagons
- Self-propelled lime and fertilizer spreaders

Motor trucks, truck-tractors, pickups, gooseneck livestock trailers, flatbed trailers, and semitrailers are not considered implements of husbandry.

Operational Limitations – Self-propelled

- Lighting and reflectors must be operational and maintained – lighting visible from 500 ft.
- When operated between sunset and sunrise:
 - One lighted white headlamp visible to the front.
 - One lighted red tail lamp visible to the rear.
 - One lighted amber flashing light visible to the rear.
- Must yield one-half of the roadway to other traffic.
- Must comply with weight limits posted for bridges.
- Must be operated on public highways at speeds of 35 mph or less.
 - *Failure to do so will result in loss of implement of husbandry exemption and penalties.*
- Fence line feeders have a maximum gross weight of 96,000 lbs (24,000 lbs/axle).

Operational Limitations – Towed

- When operated between sunset and sunrise:
 - One lighted red tail lamp visible to the rear of rearmost towed implement.
 - If visibility of lighted amber flashing light on towing implement is obstructed, an additional lighted amber flashing light is required.
- Towed implements of husbandry must operate safely at or below posted speed limits.
- Must yield one-half of the roadway to other traffic.
- Maximum number of implements allowed in a combination is three.
- Pickups require service brakes acting on all wheels and need a safety chain of sufficient strength to hold the weight of the towed implement.
- Many implements of husbandry are exempt from axle weight limits when operated on the highway: tractors, combines, gravity flow grain wagons, tillage equipment, and the like.

- Grain carts, fence line feeders, and tank wagons have a single axle maximum weight of 24,000 lbs and a maximum gross weight of 96,000 lbs.
 - *Weight of tractor towing implement is not included when calculating gross weight.*
- Tracked implements uphold the same maximum gross weight of 96,000 lbs; however track length determines actual weight limit.

Operational Limitations – ATV’s

- Operation allowed on public highways (roadway, shoulder, and ditch) if used in support of agriculture operations.
 - Must be used incidental to agricultural purpose of the farm.
 - Must be operated between sunrise and sunset.
 - Driver must be issued and carrying a valid driver’s license.
 - Must be operated at 35 mph or less.

Identification/Operator Parameters

- Driver is required to have a valid driver’s license.
- Implements operated at 35 mph or less must properly display a reflective slow-moving vehicle sign.
 - If over 35 mph sign must be removed or hidden from view.

Interstate Travel Advisory:

The provisions of Implement of Husbandry may not be adopted uniformly or coincidentally by individual states. Therefore, if you plan to travel in other states with an implement of husbandry, be sure to know what regulations apply in those states. Listed below are neighboring states patrol enforcement divisions:

- Nebraska: Nebraska State Patrol, Carrier Enforcement Division 402-471-0105
- Wisconsin: Motor Carrier Enforcement 608-267-9762
- South Dakota: Motor Carrier Headquarters 605-773-4578
- Illinois: State Patrol Commercial Vehicles Section 217-782-6629
- Minnesota: Minnesota State Patrol 6651-405-6171, option 3
- Missouri: Missouri State Patrol Commercial Vehicle Enforcement 573-526-6128

Although motor trucks, truck-tractors, pickups, agriculture trailers and semitrailers are not considered implements of husbandry they may qualify as a Covered Farm Vehicle in the state of Iowa. Under this qualification, the operator would be exempt from obtaining a CDL, reporting substance/alcohol testing, physical and medical examinations and hours of service reporting. Contact the Association to learn more about Covered Farm Vehicle guidelines.

For more information:

Iowa Motor Vehicle Enforcement Office: 515-237-3274
 6310 SE Convenience Blvd.
 Ankeny, IA 50021