Selecting a Tractor
For beginning Farmers

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What could you do, if you had a……?

• List the jobs
• What are required for your enterprise?
• What are the “would be nice to do” jobs?
Finding the tractor that fits

- The right features
- The right size
Features - Tires and Wheels

- Turf
- Industrial
- Ag
Features - PTO

- PTO = Power Take Off
- 540 rpm
- 1000 rpm
- Live vs transmission driven
Hydraulics

- Pressure
- Volume
WARNING

When carrying remote cylinder with transport bracket:
- Operate control valve lever to place cylinder rod in fully retracted position.
- Set breakaway coupler handle to rear position to lock cylinder rod in retracted position.
Features - Hitch
Features - Hitch

3 Point

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Tractor HP</th>
<th>Top Link Pin Diameter*</th>
<th>Lift Arm Pin Diameter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Up to 20</td>
<td>5/8 in</td>
<td>5/8 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>20 to 45</td>
<td>3/4 in</td>
<td>7/8 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>40 to 100</td>
<td>1 in</td>
<td>1 1/4 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>80 to 225</td>
<td>1 1/4 in</td>
<td>1 7/16 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>180 to 400 and up</td>
<td>1 1/2 in</td>
<td>2 in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Draw Bar
Hitch
Features - Front axle

- Front Wheel assist
- Standard Front axle
- Narrow front
Features - Transmissions

- Straight gear
- Synchronized gear
- Partial Power Shift
- Full Power Shift
- Hydrostatic
Features - Ground Clearance

• High vs Low
Features - Safety

- Roll bar and safety belt
- Shields
Is Make Important?
Is Make Important?

• Dealer support?
• Spare parts?
• Resale value?
New or Used?

- Price
- Convenience
Own or Rent?

- Commitment?
- Maintenance?
- Storage?
- Tax implications?
Operating

• Read the Manual !!
Maintenance

• Read the Manual !!
Tips for selecting a used tractor

• Look at several of the same model
• Listen to each tractor run
• Note common problems
• Research on line and by asking knowledgeable and experienced individuals
• Remember that some of us are biased toward certain makes or generations of tractors
Tips for selecting a used tractor

- Value of tractors is not always based on usefulness