

Farm Machinery On Highway Exceptional Danger In Fall Season

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Every year the fall season brings on exceptional dangers of impacts between regular traffic and farm machinery. The photo below shows a typical example.



The grain (gravity) trailer in the above photo was being hauled by a slow tractor in the centre of the lane of a fairly busy rural highway. Note that the gravel shoulder is fairly wide and unobstructed and could have been used by the farm vehicle. Note at the top of the trailer that the grain is above the top edge line of the trailer indicating that it is completely full with grain and therefore the reason for travelling so slowly.

If you look at the centre-line marking you will note that the "passing allowed" zone is coming to an end and the "No Passing" zone has commenced. Yet, you can also see a pick-up truck that is passing the trailer and is parallel to it at the location of the no passing zone. So there had been ample distance to pass this trailer a few seconds before but the Pick-up truck driver was unable to do so because of traffic approaching in the opposing lane. With the opportunity to pass nullified the Pick-up driver would have

to wait a considerable time and distance before reaching the next zone where passing is allowed. Rather than wait the driver has decided to pass anyway.

These conflicting conditions find themselves on our highways every fall season, sometimes with disastrous results.