

PROPOSED SAFETY RULES FOR THE OPERATION
OF MECHANICAL TREE PLANTERS

Deschutes, Whitman and Fremont National Forests

Region 6, U. S. F. S.

The Deschutes, Whitman, and Fremont National Forests in Oregon have drawn up the following safety rules to govern the operation of mechanical tree planters. Alterations have been made in these rules as a result of suggestions by Regions 6 and 9, and their eventual inclusion in the Forest Service Safety Code is proposed after further testing. Suggestions for additional improvement are invited and should be sent to TREE PLANTERS' NOTES.

The machine shall be provided with foot guards, which will completely cover the bottom and sides of the feet. These guards should be checked frequently for signs of breakage or other damage.

A heavy screen guard shall be attached to the planter, which will protect the operator when planting is being done in heavy brush.

If planting is being done in areas of log, brush, or other rough terrain, the machine that pulls the planter shall be equipped with a blade such as a V-shaped blade or angle dozer.

Signal devices shall be provided, either buzzer type, rope pull, or other effective signal between the machine operator and the tractor driver. The signal for a stop shall be definitely understood by both operators. As an alternative, a device may be installed on the planting machine that allows the machine operator to disengage the master clutch on the tractor pulling it, or that releases the planting machine from the tractor in case of emergency.

Operators shall wear close-fitting clothing, hard hats, and goggles or other adequate eye protection, if the machine is not adequately screened for this purpose.

Operators shall watch for sticks, logs, or brush that may poke up through any openings in the machine.