ALWAYS ASK YOURSELF: WHERE'S THE LINE?

Plan ahead

You never want to put yourself in the position to have equipment come into contact with power lines. Prevention is key. Plan your routes.

On the move?

Call your power provider if you need to move tall equipment under a power line. Under no circumstances should anyone but trained power line utililty staff attempt to lift or measure power lines. All lives are worth waiting for the power provider to arrive!



When there's contact!

If your equipment comes into contact, do the following:

If possible, move the machinery away to break contact with the power line (minimum 10 metres away).

If the machinery cannot be moved, stay inside until emergency crews arrive. If anyone approaches, open the window and call out for them to call 9-1-1.

If you have a cell phone with you, use it to call 9-1-1.



Do not approach or touch anything (such as a vehicle, tree or fence) that is in contact with a power line.

Fire after contact?

STAY "7 METRES SAFE"

always ask yourself WHERE'S THE LINE?

If there is a fire and you must leave the machinery, jump out with both feet together.

Never touch the ground and machinery at the same time. Move away slowly by shuffling and keeping both feet close together.

Do this until you are at least 10 metres away from the machinery.



To move through the energized zone, shuffle with very small movements so that the voltage to each foot will be the same.

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Here are some other tips for working around electricity on the farm:

- Clearly mark areas near power lines with signs.
- Maintain your lines, checking for fallen or sagging wires, especially after storms.
- Carry irrigation pipes horizontally. It's not just augers that come into contact with power lines!
- Designate a 'safe' area to raise augers and spray booms.
- Park equipment away from power lines.
- Treat every wire as "hot" or "live".
- Ensure equipment is "locked out". A lock out switch isolates equipment from all electrical current so no one can accidentally turn it on.
- Inspect electrical cords and wires *before operating any power tool*. Don't attempt to repair, rewire or connect the tool.

KNOW THE JOB. KNOW THE HAZARDS. KNOW THE DRILL

www.agriculture.alberta.ca/farmsafety

Adapted from Fortis Alberta's "Do you know the height of your equipment" brochure/2010