(3) Nothing in this regulation shall absolve an employer from compliance with regulation 3, or an employer or worker from compliance with regulation 4.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture this 8th day of July 1966.

(L.S.) *A. McKelvie,*
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These regulations, made under Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, prohibit an employer of a worker employed in agriculture from causing or permitting him to use any ladder unless it is of good construction and sound material and is properly maintained. They also prohibit the worker himself from using, as well as his employer from causing or permitting to be used, a ladder which does not comply with the prescribed conditions as to use. Workers employed in agriculture are given a responsibility to report prescribed defects to their employers.

1966. No. 163 **[C]**

AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Power Take-offs

REGULATIONS, DATED 8TH JULY 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to represent the interests concerned, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations, which may be cited as the Agriculture (Power Take-off) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966, shall come into operation as follows:—

(*a*) regulation 3 hereof (which relates to the guarding of the power take-off of a tractor), and regulation 4 hereof (which relates to the guarding of the power take-off shaft of other machinery) shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1967;

(*b*) the remainder of the regulations shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1966.

(a) 1959. c. 24.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

"power take-off" means the splined shaft of any tractor intended for transmitting power to any machine by means of the power take-off shaft of that machine;

"power take-off shaft" means, as respects any machine, its shaft (including any couplings and clutches up to the first fixed bearing of the machine) intended for attachment to the power take-off of any tractor.

(2) Any vehicle having a splined shaft intended for transmitting power to any machine by means of the power take-off shaft of that machine shall be deemed to be a tractor for the purposes of these regulations.

Guarding of power take-off

3.—(1) The employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit to be used on an agricultural unit on which such a worker is employed, and a worker employed in agriculture shall not use, any tractor having a power take-off, whilst the engine is in motion unless—

(*a*) the power take-off is guarded by a shield so designed, and so attached to the tractor, that it protects a worker from coming in contact, from above or from either side, either directly or by means of his clothes, with the power take-off of that tractor, or

(*b*) the power take-off is not in use, and is completely enclosed by a cover so attached to the tractor that contact with any part of the power take-off is impossible.

(2) Every shield and cover required by this regulation shall be substantially constructed of metal or other suitable material, and shall be capable when attached to a tractor of supporting a weight of not less than 250 pounds.

Guarding of power take-off shaft

4.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this regulation, the employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit to be used on an agricultural unit on which such a worker is employed, and a worker employed in agriculture shall not use, any machine having a power take-off shaft unless—

(*a*) the entire length of the shaft, whilst in motion, is wholly enclosed in a guard so designed, and so attached to the machine, that it protects a worker from coming in contact, either directly or by means of his clothes, with any part of the power take-off shaft of that machine, or

(*b*) in the case of a machine which is not new on the coming into operation of this regulation, and in respect of which the distance between any part of its power take-off shaft and the ground does not exceed two feet, the entire length of the shaft, whilst in motion, is either wholly enclosed as aforesaid, or is partly enclosed in the manner described in paragraph (2) of this regulation.

(2) A power take-off shaft is partly enclosed for the purpose of sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (1) of this regulation if the shaft is provided with a guard over its entire length on top and on both sides to a depth of at least two inches (measured at right angles to the shaft) below the lowest point of its circumference.

(3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a machine that is so constructed and maintained as to afford no less protection against coming in contact with the power take-off shaft of the machine than would require to be afforded under the said paragraph (1):

Provided that where a machine is so constructed and maintained as to afford such measure of protection as aforesaid in respect of only a part of the power take-off shaft of the machine, the said paragraph (1) shall apply to that machine in respect of any part of the shaft as to which such protection is not so afforded.

(4) Every guard required by this regulation shall be substantially constructed, and shall be maintained in good condition.

Certificates of exemption

5. Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, the Ministry may grant certificates exempting (for such periods as may be specified therein and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be so specified) particular cases or particular persons from the operation of the provisions of these regulations, and where any such conditions are imposed, an employer of a worker employed in agriculture, and a worker so employed, to whom any such certificate applies, shall comply with those conditions.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 8th day of July 1966.

(L.S.) *A. McKelvie,*
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These regulations, made under Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, prohibit the use, where workers are employed in agriculture, of machinery having a power take-off, or power take-off shaft, unless the power take-off, or, as the case may be, the power take-off shaft, is guarded in the manner provided in the regulations. The provisions requiring the power take-offs of a tractor and power take-off shafts to be shielded come into operation on the 1st August 1967.

1966. No. 164 [C]

AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Circular Saws

REGULATIONS, DATED 8TH JULY 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf,

(a) 1959. c. 24.