



Focus on Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS)

A review of all the previous work accomplished regarding ROPS was done as a first step to moving this project forward. Research is being conducted to look at:

- Effectiveness and coverage of ROPS
- Barriers and motivators for use
- Educational programs that encourage use
- Variations that would make ROPS useable across diverse groups

Although there is significant academic literature regarding ROPS, Canadian contribution is small. Through this applied research program, Agrivita will make a major contribution to what is known about ROPS in Canada.

This project proposes to pilot test farmer self-built ROPS. They will have access to engineered shop drawings and building instructions for a ROPS to retrofit their tractor with a material cost of approximately \$250. Twenty farmers will have the opportunity to participate and be monitored to determine the practicality of this approach.

Should this pilot project be successful, and the farmer built ROPS can be built safely at a low cost, the Canadian network of farm safety organizations will distribute the information to Canadian agricultural institutions. It is intended that this distribution will be delivered provincially to provide positive social marketing to encourage cultural change, and most importantly provide the appropriate engineered plans that will provide producers access to safe and affordable ROPS.

The *Low Cost Roll-Over Protective Structures Intervention Project* is one part of Agrivita Canada Inc.'s Canadian AgriSafety Applied Research Program, lead by a national team of researchers from the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI), the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA), the University of Alberta, the Injury Prevention Centre (IPC, formerly ACICR), and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA).

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