

# Equipment Use

**After you attend the training workshops and demonstrate that you understand how to use the equipment, you can use the following NESFP equipment:**

- BCS rototiller and attachments: hiller/furrower, brush mower, sickle bar mower, and rotary plow
- Weed trimmer with string and blade attachments
- Flame weeder with propane tank and tank cylinder dolly
- Solo backpack pesticide sprayer
- Recommended Pesticides (in storage cabinet):
  - Spintor
  - AzaDirect (Organic)
  - Surround (Organic)
  - Hot Pepper Wax
  - Garlic Barrier
  - PyGanic
  - Dipel
  - Others will be supplied as needed
- Hand tools: hoes, weeders, rakes, wheelbarrows, shovels, saws, hammers, etc.
- Chainsaw (with prior safety approval)

**Only NESFP staff may use the tractors due to liability concerns.**

## **Using Equipment:**

- Sign out equipment every time - fill in the log book with the date, your name, how many hours used, and any problems
- You may only use equipment for 2 hours if other farmers are waiting
- When finished, clean the equipment, put in fuel, and put it in the shed
- Keep shed locked at all times (even if you are on the farm)
- Equipment must stay on the farm unless OK'd by NESFP
- Let us know if the machines have problems or need maintenance
- Get NESFP approval before repairing equipment

## **Know the Machine Before Working With It:**

- Take the NESFP Equipment Training. Watch the BCS operating videos.
- Read the operator's manual.
- Be gentle with the machines.
- Learn all the machine controls.
- Be sure other people who are not trained do not use the machines.

## **Look for problems in the field:**

- Walk around the field and look for rocks, irrigation, stakes, animal traps, before using machines.
- Take care near slopes and ditches.

## **Know the machine is in a safe condition before operating:**

- Always have the rototiller kick guard in place.
- Check the oil and fuel tanks before starting.

- Make sure all the tines are tight.
- Look for leaks.

**Protect yourself and others:**

- Avoid loose clothes since they can get caught on control levers and knobs.
- Use safety goggles and hearing protection (ear plugs).
- Use gloves and boots – no sandals.
- Never stand or reach under the machine when the machine is running.
- Keep small children away from machine when operating.

**Equipment damage:** Please tell NESFP about any problem or damage. If you break the machine from improper use, then you will be required to pay to fix it.