



## 1 Incident:

Tractor driving on road when a passing truck flicked up a stone and hit the windscreen.

The tractor operator slowed down.

The windscreen stayed intact and after about five minutes shattered and the glass fragments fell onto the operator.

## 2 Key learnings:

Toughened glass is tough and long lasting however, it is designed to fail and shatter if the integrity of the glass is compromised.

When the glass shatters there is a frightening bang. Injuries from toughened glass are rare as the glass usually breaks into small square fragments, which are much less likely to cut than the jagged pieces from other kinds of glass. However, any shattered glass can still cut you, so be careful when handling fragments.

Once toughened glass is chipped or cracked shattering usually happens after a short period of time. Bumps in the road or a change in cab pressure (door or window opens) may increase the likelihood of toughened glass shattering sooner.

If the windscreen on a tractor is compromised, slow down and pull over at a safe place.

If the glass is totally smashed, it's important to remain calm and pull slowly off the road.

## 3 Tractor road driving rules:

1. Consider wearing safety glasses while driving a tractor on the road.
2. Ensure your tractor is road worthy.
3. Always wear your seat belt when driving a tractor on the road.
4. Drive below the 40 km/hr speed limit.
5. Make sure you are properly licensed.
6. Be courteous – allow enough distance between you and other agriculture equipment for cars to overtake and stay close to the left hand side of the road.
7. Drive to road conditions.

