



Don't let your farm go belly up.

When 7 out of 10 farms are out of business within five years after a fatal tractor rollover, it makes sense to protect yourself, your family and your business.

Rollover protective structures (ROPS) are 99% effective in preventing rollover deaths and serious injuries. Invest in a roll bar today.

Call today
and save
70%
(up to \$865)

CALL 1-877-ROPS-R4U | WWW.ROPSR4U.COM
(1-877-767-7748)



How The ROPS Rebate Program Works for Massachusetts.



- All participants must apply on-line at www.ropstr4u.com or by calling the ROPS Hotline (1-877-ROPS-R4U or 1-877-767-7748).
- ROPS Hotline staff will provide estimated costs as well as sources for purchasing certified ROPS.
- Prior to ordering, participants must call for Pre-approval. **PRE-APPROVAL IS REQUIRED TO ENSURE FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE THE REBATE UNTIL APPROVAL IS GIVEN.** This effectively helps us to track how much money we've spent, promised out, got left, etc.
- Once Pre-approval is given, the participant may order the ROPS and then *must* re-contact the ROPS Hotline staff (within a day or two) to confirm where they ordered and what the estimated price is. At this point, their rebate money will be "set aside" until they have the opportunity to install the ROPS.
- Participants may order the ROPS from whichever source they choose as long as the ROPS are SAE (Society of Agricultural Engineers) Certified. They do not have to order from a source on our list.
- The program will rebate 70% of the cost of purchasing and installing the ROPS (up to \$865 maximum rebate). Rebate funds are good towards the price of the ROPS kit (rollbar and seatbelt), shipping charges, tax, professional installation costs, if they so choose, a sun canopy if they so desire and purchase and install it at the same time they do the rollbar.
- Only one tractor per farm can be rebated during a program year.
- Upon submission of proof of purchase (copies of receipts for all expenses) and proof of installation (either a receipt for a professional installation or 'before' and 'after' photos for a self installation) an electronic rebate check will be mailed within 30 business days. These items may be submitted by US post, email or fax.
- NYCAMH will forward proof of purchase, proof of installation, and a rebate check request form to the responsible parties to cut the electronic rebate check to the participants account. Massachusetts requires 3 signed forms to complete the rebate process (1) Commonwealth Terms and Conditions, (2) W9, and (3) Electronic Funds Transfer Sign Up Form.
- The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources will notify Barbara Bayes at NYCAMH once electronic payment vouchers have been processed to close the file.
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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING (1) Commonwealth Terms and Conditions, (2) W9 FORM, and (3) Electronic Funds Transfer Sign Up Form:

Social Security numbers or Federal ID numbers are required from participants to issue the electronic rebate check. *We DO NOT collect this information from the participants unless they decide to follow through with the program.* Forms must be filled out, signed and then submitted with receipts and/or photos. NYCAMH will send forms to participants upon receiving Approval.

www.mass.gov/eea/docs/agr/markets/terms-w-9-ddeposit.pdf (Link to MA financial forms)

Contacts:

Barbara Bayes - **ROPS Hotline (1-877-ROPS-R4U or 1-877-767-7748).**

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Tractor ROPS Program in “First” Gear

Clover Hill Farm in Gilbertville is the first to take advantage of the new [ROPS Rebate Program](#) in Massachusetts. The ROPS program allots farmers that retrofit tractors with rollover protective structures a rebate of 70% of the cost of purchase and installation up to \$865.00.



(Pictured above Dana Prouty, Mike Cerra and Program Coordinator Bob Rondeau)

Clover Hill Farm is designated a Century Farm and the Prouty family has been farming in Gilbertville for five generations since 1888. Clover Hill Farm grows a variety of crops that are used for their custom blended animal feeds, including hay, corn, and soy. A variety of meat products (beef, poultry, and lamb) are also sold to local markets. Howe cranberries are grown in the flats next to the Ware River and four varieties of hops are grown for local brewers.

During a recent visit, Dana Prouty and Mike Cerra took some time to answer a few questions. Dana grew up on Clover Hill Farm and when asked how long he has been farming answered “all my life.” He found out about the ROPS program from Kip Graham, USDA FSA Worcester, whom “I find out about everything through him.”

Why did you install a protective structure to your tractor? “Along with the rollover protection, the canopy protects us from the sun and allows us to think better during the long hours of hay production. We don’t farm much level ground. We also have some younger relatives that are coming into the business that we want to protect.”

Did the ROPS Program meet your expectations? “Yes, absolutely, the forms took a little bit of time, but were pretty simple. We received the full \$865 rebate.