













# CLEANLINESS AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

-  Keep a full water tank and pump in the field whenever possible.
-  Have at least two fully-charged fire extinguishers on the unit – combine, cotton picker or large tractor – make sure to periodically check the pressure gauge on those extinguishers. (One extinguisher should be at least a 20 lb. dry-chemical extinguisher).
-  Have a cell phone or two-way radio in the cab of the unit to call the fire department or to call for assistance from other farm workers.
-  Begin each day with a clean piece of machinery – including spindles on cotton pickers.
-  Clean equipment periodically throughout the day. Crop residue can build up quickly especially during dry conditions. Most fires begin in the afternoon long after an early morning cleaning.
-  75 percent of all machinery fires start in the engine or engine compartment area, so pay close attention to belts, filters, hoses and pulleys in this area each time the equipment is stopped or cleaned.
-  Use a pressure washer to remove caked-on grease, crop residue and oil.
-  Pay attention to trash and lint accumulation on or near components that can be very hot such as the transmission, belt drive, hydraulic components, engine manifold and exhaust systems.
-  Follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.
-  Complete regular visual inspections for possible leaks, exposed electrical wiring or other signs of wear and tear. Keep an eye out for worn bearings, belts and chains.
-  When refueling, allow equipment to cool and allow proper time for fumes to dissipate. Immediately wipe up any spills.
-  Train operators on identifying and responding appropriately to problems.