A **39 year old male** employee fell about 12' to the road as he was standing/riding on the side of a grain drill attempting to raise an overhead phone line for the vehicle to pass underneath; there were two others helping with this task.

On the day of the accident, the victim and three others were transporting a train of farming equipment from one leased farm to another down a 2-lane divided highway. One person was operating the tractor that was pulling a grain drill with raised side frames (wing like fashion) that was then connected to a tow behind commodity cart. Two employees were standing on a section of each of the wing like sides of the drill to raise a telephone line that was crossing the road they were traveling. It was determined that the raised wing like sides of the drill measured approximately 16' and through discussions with the power company, the phone line was hanging at 15'4" from the road. It is believed that the victim lost his balance while attempting to reach and raise the phone cable while the equipment was moving, resulting in the fall. According to witness statements and the employer, equipment had been transported this way multiple times and the phone cable was always an issue.

## Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

<u>Citation 1 Item 1</u> Type of Violation: Serious \$4000

29 CFR 1928.57(a)(6)(ii): No riders shall be permitted on farm field equipment other than persons required for instruction or assistance in machine operation:

In that an employee standing/riding on the folded, raised side frames of the grain drill was fatally injured when he fell from the drill (approx. 10') while in the process of lifting overhead communication lines so the grain drill could travel underneath; two other employees were also exposed to the fall hazard while riding the grain drill.





