

# Boom Sprayer

## AgSafe Safe Work Procedure

### Connecting the Boom Sprayer

1. Attach the boom sprayer to the hitch by using a draw pin. Make sure it is secured with a safety pin.
2. Connect the large plug on the sprayer wagon into the socket on the back of the Valmar Buggy.
3. Once it is plugged in you can test the system by activating the valve switches.
4. When activated you should be able to hear the valve motors rotating. Check all three valves.
5. Connect the small trailer plug to the small socket connector on the Valmar Buggy. The wire is used to shut down the sprayer motor from the operator's position on the Valmar Buggy.
6. Before adding the chemicals to the sprayer tank be sure to test the function switch. If it does not shut down the sprayer motor a correction needs to be made to make sure it works before using the boom sprayer.

### Personal Protective Equipment

\*For the task you are about to complete make sure you are wearing the correct personal protective equipment\*

This should be but is not limited to...

- a) Rubber Boots
- b) Rubber or Nitrate Gloves
- c) Hearing Protection
- d) Eye Protection – goggles or full face mask
  
- e) Respiratory Protection – if unsure check the MSDA sheet for the product being used or ask your supervisor

\*Remember if proper protection is not used there can be long term consequences \*

## Inspecting the Boom Sprayer

1. Always complete a pre – start inspection of the Boom Sprayer and all of its components prior to mixing any chemical. Always make sure before you touch any parts of the pump, hoses, or nozzles you are wearing rubber gloves.
2. Be sure to correctly inspect the condition of all hoses and fittings, looking for signs of leakage. Also look at the trailer and booms etc. for any cracks or damaged parts that need to be fixed before starting the job.
3. Clean the suction screen – complete these steps before any chemicals are added to the tank.
  - a. Make sure that the tank is empty or the valve located at the bottom of the tank is off BEFORE taking the vent off.
  - b. Check the screens at each nozzle to make sure they are clean.
  - c. Check engine oil levels in the sprayer motor.
  - d. Check the gasoline levels in the fuel tank.
    - i. If you are unsure about what was in the spray tank last, you should rinse it out using fresh clean water before adding ANYTHING. Certain chemical residues can cause negative reactions with each other.

## Starting the Sprayer Motor

1. Make sure the tank has been rinsed out and a small amount of fresh water is in the tank.
2. Check the valve located on the bottom of the spray tank is turned on.
3. Make sure you are wearing the previously discussed personal protective equipment.
4. Always assume there is chemicals present \*caution\*.
5. Be sure the boom valve switches are in the off position.
6. Be sure the kill switch on the buggy is in the on position.
7. Make sure the on/ off switch located on the motor itself is in the off position. If the switch is in the on position then the kill switch on the buggy will not stop the motor.
8. Make sure the fuel shut off valve is in the on position.
9. If the engine is cold the choke will most likely be needed. Engage the choke for the first few pulls. Pull the starter cord out briskly, it will probably take a few pulls for the motor to start.

10. When the motor is running check that the boom switches are operating as expected.
11. Check that the kill switch located on the buggy actually does stop the motor on the spray wagon.

### **Mixing the Product**

1. ALWAYS refer to the product label for the nozzle size, speed of travel, pump pressure and rate of application are all factors that must be considered when deciding how much of the product to add to the spray tank.
2. Fill the spray tank half full with fresh, clean water.
3. Start the sprayer motor to ensure proper mixing.
4. Add de-foamer if required.
5. Add the correct amount of product.
6. Complete filling the tank with fresh, clean water.

Please use the following ***Safe Work Procedures*** as a guideline to building your own safe work procedures.