

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Regulations For Farm Vehicles and Equipment



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DISCLAIMER AND RESOURCE

The information provided in this booklet is for general information purposes only and is designed to help farmers' awareness of the various state and federal truck laws that affect farms. If you have specific questions about a particular situation, consult your attorney or contact one of the resources below:

Federal Resources

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.....(800) 832-5660
Federal Motor Carrier NJ Field Office.....(609) 275-2604

FMCSA Website.....www.fmcsa.dot.gov

USDOT Number Inquiries: Contact FMCSA at.....(800) 832-5660

New Jersey Resources

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission ...<http://www.state.nj.us/mvc>

Motor Vehicle Commission, Motor Carrier Services, IRP
Section.....(609) 633-9400, ext. 1
Website.....<http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/Commercial/IRP.htm>

New Jersey International Fuel Tax Agreement
(IFTA).....(609) 633-9400, ext. 2
(IFTA) Website.....www.state.nj.us/mvc/Commercial/IFTA.htm

New Jersey Department of Transportation Trucking
Related Issues Truck/Trailer Registration Inquiries ...(609)633-9400
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulation Inquiries.....(609)530-8026
Oversize/Overweight Permitting Inquiries.....(609)530-6089

New Jersey Farm Bureau(609)393-7163
New Jersey Farm Bureau websitenjfb.org
New Jersey Farm Bureau emailMail@njfb.org

DEFINITIONS

Covered Farm Vehicle – means a motor vehicle (including a semi) that is operated by a farm or ranch owner or operator, or the employee or family member of an owner or operator, and is transporting agricultural commodities, livestock, machinery, or supplies to or from a farm or ranch. It does not include a motor vehicle used in the operations of a for-hire motor carrier, but does allow for-hire carriage pursuant to a crop share farm lease agreement or when the tenant is transporting the landowner's share of the crop. The vehicle must be equipped with a special farmer license plate. The vehicle may be operated anywhere in the United States under these circumstances, if the gross vehicle weight or rating (whichever is greater) is 26,001 pounds or less. However, if the vehicle weighs more than 26,001 pounds, operation of the vehicle (and the related exemptions described in this book) are limited to be solely within the state of New Jersey or within 150 air-miles of the farm or ranch if crossing state lines. [49 C.F.R. sec. 390.5].

Commercial Motor Vehicle – includes every type of motor driven vehicle used for commercial purposes on the highways, such as the transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, excepting such vehicles as are run only upon rails or tracks and vehicles of the passenger car type used for touring purposes or the carrying of farm products and milk, as the case may be. [N.J.S.A 39:1-1]

CDL - Commercial Driver's License

Farmer - means any person engaged in the commercial raising, growing and producing of farm products on a farm not less than five acres in area; the term "farm products" means any

crop, livestock or fur products; and the term "farm supplies" means any farm-related supply or repair item. [N.J.S.A. 39:3-25]

FMCSA - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

GVW - Gross Vehicle Weight means the greater of the GVW rating or actual weight inclusive of the load.

Farm Tractor - means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines, and other implements of husbandry. [N.J.S.A 39:1-1]

Farm Truck – engaged in the carrying or transportation of farm products, and farm supplies, and not engaged in hauling for hire, except for a truck being operated under contract with a municipality to remove snow.

Slow-Moving Vehicles- Means a vehicle run as slow speeds less than the maximum speed then and there permissible [(N.J.S.A 39:1-1)]

Intrastate - Any goods transported within the boundaries of the state of New Jersey (except river ports).

Interstate - Any load or shipment that has or will be crossing state lines.

USDOT - United States Department of Transportation

Registrations

Person is eligible for certain motor vehicle registrations and plates at reduced rates if they meet the eligibility requirements under the definition of “Farmer”.

In order to obtain farm plates, individual must obtain a “farmer certificate” of eligibility from their County Agricultural Extension Service. The Motor vehicle commission does not issue certificates.

“Farmer” License Plates

- [N.J.S.A. 39:3-25] allows “Farmer” plates for trucks, vans, sport utility vehicles, or similar vehicles engaged in the carrying or transportation of farm products, and farm supplies, and not engaged in hauling for hire, except for a truck being operated under contract with a municipality to remove snow.
- Vehicles with “Farmer” plates can now be used for personal use. [N.J.A.C. 13:21-12.8] prohibits a vehicle with ‘Farmer’ plates towing a farm implement to travel on any highway that is a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, or any highway designated a freeway or parkway.
- NJ law requires every vehicle use for commercial purposes, including “farmer” and “farm use plates”, to display the name and municipality no less than three inches high. Commercial motor vehicles with a gross vehicle rating or combined gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds or more must also display the GVWR.
- The term "farmer" as used in this section means any person engaged in the commercial raising, growing, and producing of farm products on a farm not less than five acres in area; the term "farm products" means any crop, livestock, or fur

products; and the term "farm supplies" means any farm-related supply or repair item.

- As used in this section, the term "sport utility vehicle" means any vehicle that is designed to be used both on and off roadways and is equipped with available all wheel drive and raised ground clearance.

Farm Use Plates & Farm Tractors Plates

- Under N.J.S.A. 39:24, "Farm Use" plates can be issued for farm machinery or farm implements to travel on public highways from one farm to another farm.
- No vehicle registered pursuant to this section shall be operated on a public highway at any time from sunset to sunrise, except a vehicle being operated under contract with a municipality to remove snow or a vehicle equipped with proper safety lighting during the three hours before sunrise and the three hours after sunset.
- The vehicle is limited to travel less than 50 miles from the farm.
- Motor vehicle regulations governing vehicles with "Farm Use" plates can be found in N.J.A.C. 13:21 et. seq. Under [N.J.S.A. 39:3-24(c)],
- Motor vehicles, not for hire, which are used exclusively as farm tractors, traction equipment, farm machinery, or farm implements which cannot be operated at a speed in excess of 35 miles per hour shall not be required to be registered under [N.J.S.A. 39:24].

Farm use and Tractors described above shall grant priority of the road to other vehicular traffic. [N.J.A.C 13:21-12.7]

Farm tractors, machinery or traction equipment shall not operate on public roads when visibility is limited to 500 feet or when hazardous road conditions exist [13:21-12.3(b)]

Exemption Any drawn vehicle operated in combination with a “Farmer” truck ,”Farm Use” or “tractor” on a public highway does not need to be separately registered. [N.J.S.A 39:3-24]

Note: Farm Vehicles with Farmer, Farmer Use, and Tractor plates are considered to be a special category within the “Commercial” registration.

Off-road motor vehicles such as ATV and UTV (gator type vehicles) cannot be licensed because they do not meet the engineering specifications. Therefore, are not eligible to receive farm license plates.

Slow Moving Emblem

Any motor vehicle, not for hire, used exclusively as a farm tractor, traction equipment, farm machinery, or farm implement and any farm tractor, traction equipment, farm machinery, or farm implement drawn by a motor vehicle is required to affix a slow-moving vehicle emblem to the rear of the vehicle when operated on the roadways of the state. The emblem shall be triangular-shaped, red and fluorescent orange not less than 16 inches wide and 14 inches high and centrally affixed to the rear of the vehicle, two (2) to six (6) feet above the ground, measured from the lower edge of the emblem.

Vehicle Dimensions Regulations

Vehicles may not be operated on a highway when the vehicle, including load, exceeds a maximum width of 8 feet and/or

maximum overall length exceeds 50 feet unless such operation is in compliance with the following safety regulations concerning vehicles in excess of these regulatory dimensions:

Any farm vehicle, implement or machinery, including load, which exceeds eight feet in width and/or 50 feet in length shall display four red flags, one each on the outside extremities of the vehicle, both front and rear:

1. Such flags shall measure not less than 18 inches square.
2. The top edge of the flags shall not be less than 48 inches from the surface of the roadway.

Any farm vehicle implement or machinery and/or load which exceeds 12 feet in width and/or 60 feet in length will, in addition to the red flags provided for in (a) above, require one escorting vehicle when operating on a highway.

Farm vehicles, implements or machinery towed by a farm tractor shall be connected to the motor propelled vehicle or to the vehicle to which it is immediately attached, by at least one chain in addition to the hitch bar, of sufficient strength to hold the motor drawn vehicle on a hill if the hitching bar becomes disconnected. [N.J.A.C 13:21-12.6]

Reflective Tape on Trailers or Semitrailers

All trailers and semitrailers with an overall width of 80 inches or more and a GVWR of 10,001 pounds or more must have reflective sheeting or reflex reflectors in federally mandated colors and patterns. For the appropriate location of the material on trailers, visit the web at www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ and link with regulation [49 C.F.R. sec.393.13].

DOT Registration (DOT Number)

Farmer tagged trucks are required to register with Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA) for a DOT number. All commercial vehicles required to have a DOT number must display their name and USDOT number on both sides of the power unit. NJ requires a DOT number for **intrastate** travel, so the requirement no longer only applies to interstate travel. For more details visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov and view the vehicle marking regulations. [49 C.F.R. sec.390.21] The easiest way to register for a USDOT number is online, visit <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/> and search for DOT registration. There is no fee to register for a USDOT number for intrastate travel but there is a fee for interstate travel.

If you meet any of these three types of vehicles you need a DOT number

- Type 1 GVWR, GCWR, GVW or GCW 10,001 or more pounds
- Type 2 Eight or more passengers, including the driver, for compensation
- Type 3 Sixteen or more passengers, including the driver or
- Type 4 Used to transport material found by the secretary of Transportation to be hazardous under 49U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the Secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle 8, Chapter 1, Subchapter C.

Uniform Carrier Registration,(UCR)

Any vehicle 10,001 pounds or more that travels interstate must register with the Uniform Carrier Registration (UCR). Under UCR any power units or trailers that travel interstate are assessed a UCR fee. Motor carriers, motor private carrier(includes farm vehicles), freight forwarders, leasing companies and brokers based in the United States, Canada,

Mexico, or any other country that operate in interstate or international commerce in the United States must register under the UCR program, through which, carriers pay UCR fees through their base states on behalf of all participating states. If you are an interstate carrier based in a non- participating state, you still must comply, and a base state will be assigned to you. New Jersey is not a participating state so NJ carrier must choose another state to register with.

The Following 41 States Currently Participate:

Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, West Virginia

UCR fees are based on the total number of vehicles operated by a carrier. Trailers are not counted as vehicles. The number of commercial motor vehicles for purposes of determining carrier UCR fees is the number of self-propelled commercial motor vehicles the carrier reported in the most recent Form MCS-150 filed with the FMCSA. Interstate motor carriers must update their MCS-150 record at least every two years by filing a biennial report.

Entities not required to register under the UCR program include:

USDOT registrants (usually owner-operators that do not have interstate authority) under the PRISM program; purely intrastate carriers, that is, those that do not engage in interstate transportation across state lines or otherwise operate in interstate commerce.

To register for UCR and more information visit this link:
<https://www.ucr.in.gov/ucrHome.html>

International Registration Plan (IRP)

IRP is a cooperative agreement for registering vehicles that travel interstate (between states). Commercial vehicles based in NJ will register with the NJ's Motor Carrier Unit and are issued one apportioned plate (or set of plates) and one cab card that lists all of the states for which the vehicle is authorized to travel. IRP covers apportioned vehicles used for transportation of persons for hire or designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property and:

- 1) is a power unit having two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight in excess of 26,000 lbs.;
- 2) or is a power unit having three or more axles, regardless of weight; or is used in combination, when the weight of such combination exceeds 26,000 lbs. Commercial vehicle displaying restrictive plates, such as 'Farmer' plates, are exempt from IRP.

NOTE: An agreement was signed between New Jersey and Delaware, New York and Pennsylvania in which they recognize New Jersey's 'Farmer' plate exemption. New Jersey views 'Farmer' plates as commercial plates (restricted plates). Farmers are encouraged to keep copies of the agreement in the vehicle. Visit

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/md/prog/farmermotorvehicles.html#9> for a copy of the agreements. For additional information concerning IRP, contact the Motor Carrier Unit, IRP Section, at (609) 633-9399 or visit www.state.nj.us/mvc and search IRP.

Vehicle Marking Requirements

Requirement	Regulation	How to Comply
Display USDOT number	49CRF 390.21(a) (b) (c)	USDOT number must be displayed on both sides of the vehicle, contrasting colors and visible up to 50 feet
Display legal trade name	49CRF 390.21(a) (b) (c)N.J.S.A. 39:4-46(a)	Displayed on both sides of the vehicle, contrasting colors and three-inch letter height
Display municipality of principal place of business	N.J.S.A. 39:4-46(a)	Displayed conspicuously with, contrasting colors and three-inch letter height
Display GVWR*	N.J.S.A. 39:4-46(b)	Displayed conspicuously with, contrasting colors and three-inch letter height

*GVWR must be displayed if GVWR, GCWR or registered weight is greater than 26,000 lbs.

Agricultural License

- You must be between 16 and 17 years old
- Permit or licensed driver may only drive vehicles registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and R.S.39:3-25.(Farmer or farm use plates)
- Present a letter of authorization from a parent or guardian
- Pass the 6-point ID requirements
- Pass the knowledge and vision tests to validate your permit. You can study by reading the Driver Manual

- Successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course
- Schedule a road test. * You must wait a mandatory 20 days before taking the test
- Pass the road test*
- Take your permit, ride slip and score sheet to an MVC Agency to receive your license
- No driving between 11pm and 5am
- Display a reflectorized decal on each license plate (front/back)
- Once you are 17 years old, you can visit an MVC Agency and pass 6 point ID to exchange your agricultural license for a Provisional, restricted license valid for one year from date of issuance

****Road test vehicle must have agricultural plates.***

No person shall drive any motor vehicle, truck- trailer or farm tractor or bus on or across any public highway unless he/she had a valid driver's license. [N.J.A.C 13:21-13.2]

Commercial Drivers License (CDL)

If a farmer is traveling intrastate, within 150 miles of their farm and not hauling for hire, Federal regulations and NJ's statute [N.J.S.A. 39:3-10(k)] exempt farmers from CDLs. However, the federal regulations require that a reciprocity agreement must be in place for the exemption to be recognized during interstate travel. New Jersey has a reciprocity agreement with Delaware and Pennsylvania recognizing the CDL exemption. Farmers are encouraged to keep a copy of the exemption in their vehicle. The agreements can be downloaded by visiting www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/md/prog/farmermotorvehicles.html#9. For more information on the regulations governing Federal CDL licensing, visit the web at www.fmcsa.dot.gov . A

commercial motor vehicle means any self-propelled or towed motor vehicle used on a highway in interstate commerce to transport passengers or property when the vehicle;

- 1) has a GVWR or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 26,001 pounds or more; whichever is less or
- 2) is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including driver) for compensation;
- 3) is designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers, including driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation

Drivers of “Covered farm Vehicle” are exempt from the following requirements if they are within 150 miles of the farm.

49 CFR Part 383: Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Penalties*

49 CFR Part 382: Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing*

49 CFR Part 391: Subpart E: Physical Qualifications and Examinations*

49 CFR Part 395: Hours of Service*

49 CFR Part 396: Inspection, Repair and Maintenance*

* The information provided does not preempt standards and requirements that apply to vehicles and drivers of vehicles that carry hazardous materials in quantities that require the vehicle to display hazmat placards.

Drivers that have a CDL license must submit their Medical Certificate to the NJ Motor Vehicle commission with the “CDL Holder Self Certification” form. For those that drive Farmer plated trucks this required form also notifies the division that you only operate “farmer” plated trucks within 150 miles and

do not need to submit medical certificate to the state. So drivers of Farmer tagged vehicles must send this in if they have a CDL License.

A driver of a bus or migratory farm worker vehicle engaged in transportation of migrant workers must be 21 years old and licensed as a chauffeur in his state or country of residence. If state or country of residence does not require the license of chauffeurs, he must have an operator's license in the home state or country. [N.J.A.C 13:21-13.2]

Heavy Vehicle Use Tax

To be subject to the tax vehicles must:

1. Be designed for moving a load over public highways including busses trucks truck tractors trailers and semi trailers.
2. Have taxable gross weight of 55,000lbs or more
3. Be registered for highway use
4. Be used on a public highway

Registered farm vehicles (55,000 pounds or more which travel 7,500 miles or less are not subject to federal tax. Farmers who qualify should file IRS form 2290 in order to establish their exempt status with the IRS.

In order to renew state registration for vehicles 55,000lbs or more, vehicle owner must file for the exemption.

International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA)

The International Fuel Tax Agreement is an agreement among states and Canadian Provinces to simplify the reporting of fuel taxes by inter-jurisdictional and interstate motor carriers.

“Farmer” plated Vehicles are exempt from IFTA registration if the truck does not leave NJ.

IFTA registration is required for commercial vehicles used to transport people or property, whose base jurisdiction is in NJ and meets the following requirements,

1. Have two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight exceeding 26,000 pounds; or
2. Have three or more axles, regardless of weight; or
3. Are used in combination when such combination exceeds a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds

If a Farmer tag vehicle leaves the state of NJ they may be required to register with IFTA. To find out if you are required to register for the state you will be traveling in contact NJMVC IFTA unit (609) 633-9400. See NJMVC website for more information for IFTA requirements.

<http://www.nj.gov/mvc/Commercial/IFTA.htm>

Farmer Tagged Vehicles 26,000 lbs and Less Traveling Intrastate and Interstate.*

Drivers of farm plated vehicles registered 26,000 pounds or less regardless of the distance traveled are exempt from medical examination and certification, random and post-accident drug and alcohol testing, “hours of service” (driver logs and work time and driving time limitations), and driver daily inspections and written safety reporting of operated vehicles. (49 CFR 390.39 and 49 CFR 390.5(2)(i) definition of “covered farm vehicle”)

Farmer Tagged Vehicles 26,001lbs and More Traveling Intrastate and Interstate.*

Drivers of farmer plated vehicles and farm powered combination vehicles with a registered weight of 26,001 pounds or more and traveling within 150 miles from the farm are exempt from requirements for medical examination and certification, random and post-accident drug and alcohol testing, “hours of service” (driver logs and work time and driving time limitations), and driver daily inspections and written safety reporting of operated vehicles (49 CFR 390.39 and 49 CFR 390.5’s definition of “covered farm vehicle”).

* The information provided does not preempt standards and requirements that apply to vehicles and drivers of vehicles that carry hazardous materials in quantities that require the vehicle to display hazmat placards.

Hours of service

Most farmers should be exempt if they are driving a Covered Farm Vehicle (CFV). If the truck is registered 26,000 lbs. (and under) they are exempt nationwide and if they are 26,001 lbs and over they are exempt within their State and up to 150 air-miles from the farm if they cross State lines. Covered Farm Vehicles are also exempt from the electronic logging device (ELD) requirement because CFV drivers are exempt from hours of service and record keeping. If the vehicle cannot claim CFV then the driver will have to keep records of duty status (RODS) and comply with the ELD mandate.

Minimum Age Requirements May Apply to Drivers of Interstate Operated Farm Vehicles and Combinations Over 10,000 Pounds*

Minimum age	Type of Registered Vehicle Driven	Miles from Vehicle Owners Farm
none	10,001 lbs or more single unit (not towing a trailer) (49 CFR 391.2(c) and 49 CFR 390.5's definition of "farm vehicle driver")	<u>within</u> 150 miles
18	farm-vehicle-powered combinations with a weight or weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds(49 CFR 391.67)	<u>within</u> 150 miles
21	farm vehicle or any farm vehicle combination with a weight or weight rating greater than 10,000(49 CFR 391.11(b)(1)). Must have CDL	<u>outside</u> of 150 miles

* The information provided does not preempt standards and requirements that apply to vehicles and drivers of vehicles that carry hazardous materials in quantities that require the vehicle to display hazmat placards.

Drivers of Interstate-Operated Farm Vehicles and Combinations Over 10,000 Pounds Must Comply with Safe Operation Standards

Drivers of farm plated vehicles with a weight rating more than 10,000lbs must comply with the requirements for safe operation of commercial vehicles under Federal Motor Carrier Regulations. This includes limited actions that inhibit driving such as drugs, alcohol and fatigue also including emergency equipment, safety inspection of vehicle and cargo. See (49 CFR Part 392) for details

This section also includes the requirement for 3 safety warning devices when stopped on road or shoulder. Devices should be placed accordingly:

- One on the traffic side of and 4 paces (approximately 10 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the direction of approaching traffic;
- One at 40 paces (approximately 100 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the center of the traffic lane or shoulder occupied by the commercial motor vehicle and in the direction of approaching traffic; and
- One at 40 paces (approximately 100 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the center of the traffic lane or shoulder occupied by the commercial motor vehicle and in the direction away from approaching traffic. (49 C.F.R. sec.392.22)

Under [49 CFR Part 392] the regulation requires the adherence to [49 CFR Part 393.95] for emergency requirement for power vehicles. The rule includes the requirement for fire extinguisher among others.

- A fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5 B:C or more; or
- Two fire extinguishers, each of which has an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 4 B:C or more.

- (2) *Labeling and marking.* Each fire extinguisher required by this section must be labeled or marked by the manufacturer with its Underwriters' Laboratories rating.
- (3) *Visual Indicators.* The fire extinguisher must be designed, constructed, and maintained to permit visual determination of whether it is fully charged.
- (4) *Condition, location, and mounting.* The fire extinguisher(s) must be filled and located so that it is readily accessible for use. The extinguisher(s) must be securely mounted to prevent sliding, rolling, or vertical movement relative to the motor vehicle.
- (5) *Extinguishing agents.* The fire extinguisher must use an extinguishing agent that does not need protection from freezing. Extinguishing agents must comply with the toxicity provisions of the Environmental Protection Agency's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) regulations under 40 CFR Part 82, Subpart G.

Vehicle inspections

Beginning May 1, 2016, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission has changed the inspection requirements for certain vehicles. Due to the cessation of tailpipe emission testing, the following passenger vehicles now will be exempted from inspection:

- Gasoline powered vehicles registered passenger, model year 1995 & older with a GVWR 8,500 pounds or less.
- Gasoline powered vehicles registered passenger, model year 2007 & older with a GVWR 8,501 to 14,000 pounds.
- Gasoline powered vehicles registered passenger, model year 2013 & older with a GVWR 14,001 pounds or more.

A passenger vehicle is considered any vehicle registered with one of the following registration codes:

- 1 through 9
- 12 (not utilized to transport passengers as in the manner of a bus)

- 15
- 31 (This is the Farmer Tag)
- 73

Additionally, owners of the exempted vehicles will be sent a notice six (6) to eight (8) weeks before their vehicle would have been due for inspection. Owners should remove the inspection sticker once it expires and keep the notice that is sent to them.

Vehicles that have to be inspected every 2 years for emissions

Gasoline and bi-fueled vehicles plated as passenger, not-for-profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck model year 1996 and newer with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) 8,500 pounds or less, five (5) model years and older, excluding buses.

- Gasoline and bi-fueled vehicles plated as passenger, not-for-profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck model year 2008 and newer with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) from 8,501 to 14,000 pounds, five (5) model years and older, excluding buses.
- Gasoline and bi-fueled vehicles plated as passenger, not-for-profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck model year 2014 and newer with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) 14,001 pounds or greater, five (5) model years and older, excluding buses.
- Diesel-powered, passenger motor vehicles plated as passenger, not-for-profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck model year 1997 and newer with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) 8,500 pounds or less, five (5) model years and older, excluding buses.

Vehicle exempt from periodic diesel emissions test (Puff-test)

- Heavy duty Diesel trucks 18,000 or more pounds that is registered pursuant to [N.J.S.A 39:3-25] or [N.J.S.A 39:3-24] (Farmer, Farm Use tag) [N.J.A.C 13:20-26.17]

Farm equipment that does not need inspection

- Farm tractors and traction equipment
- Farm machinery and implements
- All diesel powered vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) 8,501 to 17,999 that are plated passenger, not for profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck except buses
- All diesel powered vehicles model year 1996 and older that are plated passenger, not for profit, governmental, commuter van, farmer or farm truck except buses

Equipment Lighting Requirements for Farm equipment and Trucks

Agricultural Machinery and implements, and farm tractors when used on a public highway, must have adequate means to control movement and stop to hold vehicle on any up or down grade. [N.J.S.A 39:3-68]

Lighting equipment for tractors

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors are required to be equipped with lamps during the times when lighted lamps are required such as Fog, rain, or smoke with at least one lighted lamp or lantern exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp or lantern exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear, and such lamps and lanterns shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle. [N.J.S.A 39:3-65]

Maintenance of lamps, reflectors, etc.

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this article shall be kept clean and in good working order and, as far as practicable, shall be mounted in such a manner as to reduce the likelihood of their being obscured by mud or dust thrown up by the wheels. [N.J.S.A 39:3-66]

Lighting equipment for Farm trucks

Every motor vehicle must be equipped with at least 2 headlamps, 2 front turn signals, 2 tail lamps, 2 stop lamps, 2 rear turn signals and 2 reflectors. Turn signal are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double faced turn signals on or near the front that are visible to passing drivers. [N.J.S.A 39:3-61a]

Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, which shall be in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side. [N.J.S.A 39:3-61b]

Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in [N.J.S.A 39:3-61(a)] above.

On the front of truck

two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps except that where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

On the rear of truck

two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps;

On each side of truck

one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

Lighting Equipment for Trailers and Semitrailers

Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals, and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination.

Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer, or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those above.

On the front

- two clearance lamps, one at each side;

On the rear

- two clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, three identification lamps;

On each side

- One side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front
- One side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear

Any trailer or semi-trailer vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamp or lamps and reflector or reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

[N.J.S.A 39:3-61e]

Sales Tax Exemption for Farm Trucks

The New Jersey Sales and Use Tax Act provides an exemption for the sale of commercial trucks and truck tractors, which are registered pursuant to N.J.S.A 39:3-24 or 39:3-25 and have a gross vehicle rating in excess of 18,000 pounds.

The Division has determined that the 18,000 pound GVWR requirement can be met by a combination of the gross weight of the truck itself, as specified by the manufacturer, and the weight of the towed vehicle, as indicated by the truck's towing capacity.

In order to support the exemption at the time of purchase, a New Jersey motor vehicle dealer must verify the GVWR of the truck and its towing capacity. The dealer should then obtain from the purchaser a completed copy of the Exempt Use Certificate (ST-4) indicating N.J.S.A 54:32B-8.43 as the basis of the exemption, and register the truck as a farm vehicle with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

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