



**Empire Farm Days: August 7-9, 2018**  
**Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY**  
877-697-7837, [www.empirefarmdays.com](http://www.empirefarmdays.com)



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PHOTO: <http://empirefarmdays.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/efdTractorSafetyContB34B4E.jpg>

### **NYS FFA Tractor Driving Safety Contestants Advised to Study for Competition; July 30 is Deadline to Pre-Register for 2018 Event**

Seneca Falls, NY. Students from age 14 to 18 may pre-register for the 2018 New York State FFA Tractor Driving Safety Contest that will be held on Thursday, August 9 at Empire Farm Days at Rodman Lott and Son Farms in Seneca Falls. July 30 is the pre-registration deadline date to contact coordinator Jon Clayson at Pioneer Central School at [JClayson@pioneerksd.org](mailto:JClayson@pioneerksd.org).

“This contest helps build farm safety awareness in our youth through developing proper tractor operation to compete successfully and to practice at home on the farm. Supporting their children in this contest also helps remind families to keep safety on the farm a priority,” says Clayson.

FFA members are judged in two age divisions; the Senior Division winner goes on to compete at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, MA, in September. 4-H members who are not FFA members compete in a separate division.

Clayson advises students to practice their driving skills and study for the written exam and suggests visiting the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health website at [www.nycamh.org](http://www.nycamh.org) for educational resources.

The annual contest tests the ability to safely drive a farm tractor with a 2-wheel and 4-wheel wagon attached. The students will be driving brand new 4x4 55 to 75 horsepower tractors

provided by the contest sponsors. The judging is rigorous and includes a written exam and how well the contestants can identify tractor parts in addition to the driving course.

Sponsors for the 2018 NYS FFA Tractor Driving Safety Contest include Case International, John Deere, Kubota, New Holland, H&S Farm Equipment, the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health, Java Farm Supply, Lamb and Webster, and the New York FFA Foundation.

The 2017 Empire Farm Days New York State Tractor Driving Safety Contest winners were Logan Williams of Pioneer Central School in the Senior Division for 16 to 18-year-olds, and Patrick Fontaine of Pioneer Central School in the 14-16-year-old Junior Division. Tanner Hutter of Yates County won the 4-H Division.

Students may also register the day of the contest. The NYS FFA Tractor Driving Safety Contest is part of the full range of activities at Empire Farm Days, the largest outdoor agricultural trade show in the northeastern U.S. Learn more at [www.empirefarmdays.com](http://www.empirefarmdays.com) or call 877-697-7837.

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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