

TIRE REHAB



Your tires help you get the job done in the field, but when they're not working properly, it can have a major impact on your bottom line. Fortunately, fixing the four common agricultural tire problems listed below doesn't need to be complicated.

INCORRECT INFLATION PRESSURE



Proper tire inflation pressure is paramount to tire performance. It doesn't just carry the load, inflation pressure impacts everything from tire wear to traction to compaction. The key to determining correct inflation pressure is to know your axle weights. Take a few minutes to weigh your equipment, and then use the Firestone Ag Tire Pressure Calculator to accurately deduce what inflation pressures are right for the load you are carrying.

POWER HOP



Power hop occurs in soils that are dry and packed. It can be annoying, but this can easily be fixed by adjusting the inflation pressure. The first step in correcting power hop is to

make sure the weight split is appropriate for the type of tractor and the tire inflation pressures are set based on axle load.

If the tractor is weighted and tire pressures are set correctly, increase the inflation pressure on one axle. For front-wheel-drive tractors, increase the inflation pressure 6 psi on the front axle. For four-wheel-drive tractors, increase the inflation pressure 6 psi on the rear axle. After the soil has received rain, the inflation pressures can be lowered to the minimum inflation pressure.

ROAD LOPE



Tread design does have some impact on vibration levels when you're driving on the road but not enough to really be noticeable. If you are experiencing road lope, or bouncing when traveling on the road, it is usually a function of an out-of-round tire/wheel assembly. In most cases, a quarter-inch of out-of-roundness will cause the tractor to bounce as it goes down the road. To fix this condition, identify the high spot of the tire/

wheel assembly. Once you've identified the high spot, place it at the 12 o'clock position and loosen the wheel bolts. This allows the tire to center on the axle. Then retighten the wheel bolts.

STUBBLE DAMAGE



Rubber tires require a certain amount of flexibility to do their job. But that also means that crop stubble will win every time in a head-to-head battle. At this time, no tire is manufactured with material that can totally resist stubble damage. Our recommendation is to run between crop rows whenever possible and use stubble stompers to push over the crop. When the crop is lying flat, there is a lower risk of tire puncture when driving through the field.

To learn more and try the Firestone Ag Tire Pressure Calculator, visit FirestoneAg.com

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