

The Benefits of Farm Plates

FARM license plates are reduced fee commercial plates for farmers with valid Farm Business Registration. Passenger vehicles, SUVs and minivans, are not eligible for FARM plates. There are three benefits for farmers to have FARM license plates on their farm truck;

1. Lower annual plate fees compared to other commercial plate fees:

Annual farm plate fees are lower than other commercial plate fees. Current discounts range between \$93 to \$3,447.50, depending on vehicles weight ranges between 3,001 and 63,500 kg.

2. Option to drive a Class D truck with a G or G2 driver's license:

Farmers and farm employees with a G or G2 license may drive the farmer's Class D farm-plated trucks or combinations (registered weight over 11,000 kg), to or from a farm, for the farmer's personal use or the unpaid transport of farm products, supplies or equipment. Farm plated trucks may conduct paid hauling from September through November. To operate a farm truck with air brakes the driver must have a Z air brake endorsement. G2 drivers cannot drive a Class D truck with air brakes or drive a Class D truck for-hire. G1 drivers cannot drive a Class D truck.

3. Limited Dangerous Goods Exemption: *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, (CDA) S 1.21 to 1.24, 1.35*

For farming purposes, FARM-plated trucks are exempt from documentation, placarding and driver-training requirements, to transport up to 1,500 kg of dangerous goods, 6,000 L of agricultural pesticides in a single container or 10,000 litres of Anhydrous Ammonia in a single container, for a distance up to 100 km. The Dangerous Goods Exemption does not apply to explosives, flammable or toxic gases, infectious or radioactive substances.

An open farm vehicle, including a pickup, is exempt from documentation and training requirements to transport up to 2,000 L of gasoline and diesel in securely mounted, approved containers. Individual Containers cannot exceed 454 L and containers must display Class 3 Dangerous Goods Safety Marks visible from outside the vehicle.

DriveON Emissions Testing

In 2019 Ontario ended the Light Duty DRIVE CLEAN emissions test requirements. The HEAVY-DUTY DriveON emissions test program remains in effect for diesel commercial motor vehicles and buses with a registered gross weight over 4,500 kg and:

- at least seven model years old at licence plate sticker renewal; or
- older than the current model production year when registered to a new owner

You do not need an emissions test for a vehicle:

- under 4,500 kg registered gross weight, or
- over 4,500 kg that does not run on diesel.

Police or MTO enforcement officers can stop and inspect any vehicle emitting excessive exhaust, or if they believe that the emission control equipment is damaged or removed.