



ROAD LOPE

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

A recent survey revealed that roughly 47 percent of growers are currently experiencing problems with road lope on their tractors and combines. The physical swaying and bouncing of the machine during road transport can cause a machine that is capable of running at 26 mph to have to slow down significantly. This leads to longer days, less time in the field and an uncomfortable ride for the operator.

COMMON CAUSES

Misalignment of wheel/tire assembly can affect the overall roundness of the tire, thereby causing a rougher ride. Tires have natural high and low spots, as do wheels. If the high spot of the tire is not aligned with the low spot of the wheel, the machine is much more likely to experience road lope.

Buckling of the tire sidewall in general, is often the culprit behind road lope. As machines continue to grow in size and weight, the standard farm tire design has been expected to keep up. However, the large sidewall of standard farm tires tends to buckle under the increased demands of today's high-powered machinery, thereby causing problems with road lope.

Underinflated tires have a tendency to flex in the sidewall when put under heavy loads and high speeds. This buckling can ignite a porpoising effect that grows in intensity and can only be stopped by slowing the machine.

Improper weighting and ballasting of the machine can throw off its center of gravity, thereby increasing the likelihood of bouncing and loping at high speeds.





MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS

Properly inflate tires based on the overall machine weight. This may require an adjustment to inflation before road transport as compared to the inflation pressures that were previously set to conduct fieldwork with the added weight of implements.

Adjust ballast to be equally weighted between front and rear before road transport.

Adjust tire runout by ensuring the natural high spot of the tire is properly aligned with the natural low spot of the wheel. This can be achieved with the help of a qualified field service technician.

Field service technicians such as the Titan Grizz Squad can help make adjustments to growers' machines to ensure their setup is optimal for reducing road lope — a service that is free of charge.

TIRE SOLUTIONS

Low Sidewall (LSW) Technology tires feature a larger rim diameter and shorter sidewall than standard farm tires, all while maintaining the same outside diameter, same inflation pressures and same weight load capacities. The larger rim provides greater machine stability and less opportunity for the sidewall to buckle, which greatly improves the tires' ability to dampen bumps in the road, thereby reducing road lope.

LSW combined with IF technology allows for the stability benefits of a larger rim, while still being able to operate at 20 percent lower inflation pressures. Together, the technologies provide the best of both worlds in terms of smooth ride and stability on the road, as well as improved flotation and reduced compaction in the field without the need to make frequent adjustments.



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