



EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE WORKER

# What do they do?

The equipment maintenance worker inspects, repairs, and

maintains a wide range of farm equipment, tools, and

technology. They must be able to diagnose problems in both

mechanical and electronic equipment, identify the correct tools

and techniques required for repair, repair items to ensure that

it can be used safely, maintain a detailed inventory of all parts

and supplies, and operate various farm machinery and tools.

# A day in the life…

Matt has been fixing things his whole career. Before taking his current job as the equipment maintenance worker at Golden Acres, an Alberta feedlot, he worked as a vehicle mechanic for a number of years.

At Golden Acres, his day starts at about 7:30 a.m., which is later than many of his co-workers, who are already on the farm at dawn. But once he arrives at his workshop, he hits the ground running. There is always a backlog of tools and equipment that need to be repaired right away. When the equipment that needs servicing is too big to be brought into the shop, he loads up his truck with the tools he needs and drives out to repair it on site.

Before he started working in agriculture, he earned his Red Seal as an automotive mechanic, so he’s very comfortable repairing things like transport vehicles and tractors. For some of the more specialized pieces of equipment, he had to learn new techniques on the job. His supervisor also arranged for him to take some workshops offered through a nearby agricultural college.

Electronic equipment and computers are being used more frequently on the farm, so he is teaching himself to run computer diagnostics and repair circuit boards in addition to mechanical repairs. But for the more advanced repairs, he coordinates a service call through the manufacturer.

Before he leaves for the day, he always makes sure the shop is clean and tidy and ready for the next day’s work.

“I love the variety and the challenge of this job,” Matt says. “I never know what I’ll be called on to fix, and with so many different types of machines on site, I’m always learning something new.”

# learn more about this job

See a complete **job description** for this job.

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