

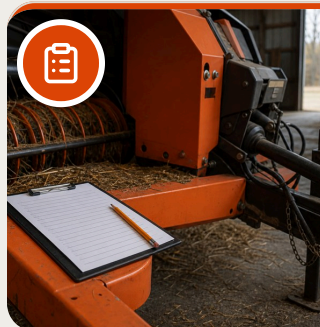
BEFORE THE BARN DOOR CLOSES:

STORING THE FIELD EQUIPMENT AND SERVICING THE LOADER TRACTOR

Every implement goes into the shed one of two ways: ready for spring, or still carrying whatever broke in August. The difference is about an hour per machine now.



KUBOTA
CHRIS



WRITE THE REPAIR LIST NOW

- Walk each machine as its season ends.
- Note the growling bearing, worn knife sections, the leak.
- Order parts in the off-season. Winter is when a shop has time.



CLEAN IT BEFORE IT'S PARKED

- Residue and manure hold moisture and rust steel.
- Mice nest in residue and chew wiring.
- Blow down or wash balers, mowers and conditioners.



GREASE, AND PROTECT WHAT RUSTS

- Grease every fitting to push out moisture.
- Store cylinders retracted; grease exposed rods.
- Clean and oil roller chains.



TAKE THE TENSION OFF

- Belts and springs under load all winter take a set.
- Your manual says which to release for storage.



TIRES AND WHERE IT SITS

- Park under cover and out of the sun.
- Block up heavy implements.
- Otherwise, check pressures before they go in.



THE LOADER TRACTOR DOESN'T GET THE WINTER OFF

- Oil and filters to the hour-meter interval.
- Coolant strength tested, not just the level.
- Block heater tested; battery load-tested.
- Winter-blend diesel; drain the water separator.
- Hydraulic fluid level and colour; look over loader hoses.
- Grease loader pins and front axle; chains and ballast per the manual.

ONE RULE THAT NEVER CHANGES



Check that every PTO shield and guard is in place before winter chores start. Never step over or reach across a turning PTO shaft.

Shut it off, and wait for it to stop.

Storage steps and service intervals vary by machine, so check each operator's manual for what it needs.

We're here to help
when you need us.

CALL OR TEXT
519-374-9461

FULL ARTICLE
www.ChrisRea.ca/advice