



# Equipment Breakdown Coverage - Agricultural

## INSURANCE INFORMATION

### COMPUTERS & ELECTRONICS

Today, technology is part of farm life. Modern operations often use precision farming techniques that utilize sophisticated technology or other complex electrical systems. But even traditional farms now rely on office computers, phones and communications systems that contain sensitive electronic technology.

High-tech equipment is fragile, highly prone to breakdown and typically, once damaged, must be replaced. In many cases, loss of farm income due to breakdown compounds the cost.

### COMMON CAUSES OF BREAKDOWN

- Power surges
- Power interruptions
- Electrical line surges
- Insulation deterioration
- Overload

### A TYPICAL LOSS

*Circuit board failure caused controls for automatic dispensing pumps to fail and release more than 483,000 lbs. of liquid cattle feed.*

*Total Paid Loss: \$31,506*

### ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION

A variety of electrical equipment is critical to daily farm and ranch operations. Electrical generators

provide power for remote areas or serve as back-up to primary energy sources. Electrical panels, circuit breakers and cables control the flow of power to the farm.

On farms and ranches, many of the conditions that cause breakdown are more extreme than in other business environments. Temperature changes, rain, dirt and dust - all part of the farm environment - contribute to equipment breakdown risk.

### COMMON CAUSES OF BREAKDOWN

- Power surges and fluctuations
- Loose connections
- Moisture or high humidity
- Dirt and dust
- Overloading
- Insulation deterioration
- Inadequate maintenance

### A TYPICAL LOSS

*A farmers' co-op had to replace a utility transformer shorted out by a power surge. A rental generator was also needed.*

*Total Paid Loss: \$78,234*

### MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

The motors, gears and many mechanical parts in pumps, milking carousels and other farm and ranch equipment are subject to a variety of breakdown risks. Operating for long hours and often stretched to

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maximum capacity, this equipment is constantly at risk of breakdown.

Most mechanical equipment also contains electrical parts and, on today's farms, it is highly automated, controlled by sensitive high-tech equipment that increases the risk of breakdown.

#### COMMON CAUSES OF BREAKDOWN

- Lack of lubrication
- Oil contaminant
- Misalignment
- Metal fatigue
- Vibration
- Electrical disturbances

#### A TYPICAL LOSS

*Overloading of a grain elevator caused a crack in the main gearbox.*

*Total Paid Loss: \$31,506*

#### REFRIGERATION & CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS

Dairies, ranches and other types of farms depend on refrigeration to keep milk, medicine, breeding materials and other farm essentials cool. Equipment breakdown of refrigeration systems can be costly and can also cause spoilage\*.

For farmers and ranchers managing animals indoors, environmental control is a must. Equipment is key to regulating temperature and air flow, but compressor motors fail and other parts break down frequently. A breakdown can mean equipment loss and loss of farm income.

#### COMMON CAUSES OF BREAKDOWN

- Control failure
- Vibration

- Loss of lubrication
- Rapid weather change
- Scale build-up

#### A TYPICAL LOSS

*A fruit farmer lost about 825 lbs. of refrigerant when a failed piston rod caused a compressor breakdown.*

*Total Paid Loss: \$14,548*

#### BOILERS & PRESSURE VESSELS

Boilers are widely used to generate and distribute heat and hot water. Other types of pressure vessels include sterilizers and air tanks.

Increasingly, dairies and hog farms are generating power from waste, burning methane to produce energy for their operations. Boilers and pressure vessels are major parts of co-generation systems\*.

#### COMMON CAUSES OF BREAKDOWN

- Pump failure
- Low water cut-off mechanism failure
- Control failure
- Scale build-up
- Inadequate controls of safety devices

#### A TYPICAL LOSS

*A boiler used to heat a mushroom farm grow room overheated due to lack of water, resulting in extensive repairs.*

*Total Paid Loss: \$18,768*

*HIGHLIGHTS ONLY. Actual policy wordings govern. Coverage availability subject to underwriting eligibility.*

*\* Co-generation and spoilage is a referral class.*