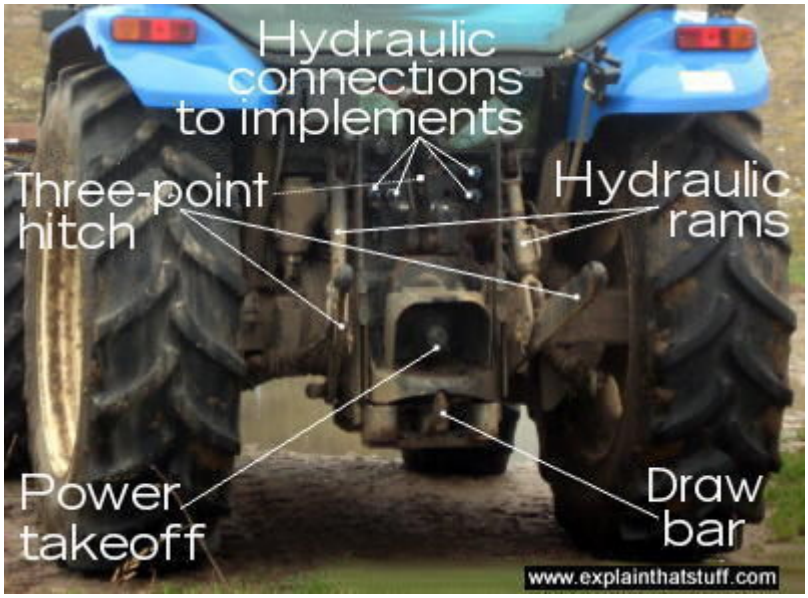
THIRD TERM LESSON NOTE 1, A
CLASS: SS2
SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE
TOPIC: FARM MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS
SUB-TOPIC: TRACTOR

Farm machinery is made up of complex machines which can be used to prepare the land for planting, for fertilization, spraying, harvesting and processing as well as milking cows and hatching of eggs.

Farm machines are labour saving devices, they include tractor, bulldozer, harvester and combined harvester, grader, Sheller, grinding and mixing mill, thresher, sprayer, incubator and milking machine. The most important and most versatile of these is the tractor. Generally, farm machines have the following advantages:

a. There is increase in farm size
b. There is increased efficiency of production
c. Farm work is less tedious and is devoid of drudgery
d. Farm work is accomplished with speed and is timely
e. Some operations can be combined into one
f. Farm machines allow human labour to be used for other operations.

TRACTOR



The tractor is a powerful and expensive multi-purpose motor vehicle used for lifting or pulling farm implements. It has a power-take-off (P.T.O) shaft and coupling points that are used in pulling implements like ploughs and four wheels consisting of two large hind wheels and a pair of small front wheels. Popular brand include Massey Ferguson, David Brown, Ford and Fiat.

TYPES OF TRACTORS

Tractors may be classified based on the following:

1. Engine type:
    a. injection or diesel type
    b. Petrol engine or carburetor
2. Wheel type:
    a. Pneumatic tyre type
    b. Crawler type (chain type)
3. Engine Power Output or Capacity

ASSIGNMENT

1. What is farm mechanization?
2. Write short notes on “Tractor”
3. Discuss eight maintenance practices including the precautions you would take to keep the tractor operating safely and ensure its durability.

Reference: Essential Agricultural Science for Senior Secondary Schools by O.A Iwena