

Overmass / oversize regulation has gotten out of control and is almost impossible for farmers to comply with.

I have included the product brochures of common sowing implements so you can see the transport dimensions of these farm sowing plants. As farm sizes have grown over the years so has the size of the sowing plant farmers are buying to be more efficient in their businesses.

In many OMOS movements, farmers are only moving their sowing plant on quiet country lanes and backroads, many of which would see minimal traffic if any. However, farmers need to be compliant with the law and their insurance so they do not lose their farm in any litigation from accidents.

Farmers and Agricultural businesses want to comply with the law, but these regulations have made this task difficult. It seems the legislation has been designed for one-off single OMOS movements through major cities and built up areas where there will be a major traffic impact. Farmers have to jump through the same hoops as a business in the city moving a huge generator or piece of construction infrastructure that will be moved once. I obtained my permit after at least 20 hours of office work that took me away from my farm business. I spent hours on the phone with various people trying to work out what I had to do to comply and then hours writing the documents and filing out the forms required. It is so complicated that farmers are throwing up their hands and saying it is all too hard and just moving their farm equipment on the roads anyway because they have to get on with the business of farming and making a living. In many instances they have the physical escorts and flags etc but just haven't done the paperwork to get a permit. Business cannot afford to spend this much time with red tape which in no way will make the roads safer in rural NSW. One day a farmer will lose their farm in litigation because he hasn't got a permit and something happens.

Can you please explain how these regulations are necessary to keep the roads safer? What is the data on accidents caused by farmers using the roads to transport their OMOS farming equipment? The only disruption that is caused by a slow moving OMOS farming plant on the road is that other drivers may have to slow down for a couple of minutes until the farmer can move over to the side of the road. Drivers are on the whole very courteous and patient and I'm sure the threat of these movements to public safety has been over-stated and over-regulated.

I have included the OMOS Agricultural Vehicle Code of Practice for South Australia, which is very sensible.