SUITEABLE VEHICLE RISK DECISION TOOL

STOP: Conduct a risk assessment
Select the most appropriate vehicle considering the following:

> Tasks—What tasks will it be used for? What do you need it to do?
> Conditions—What are the most common operating conditions? Rocky or hilly country? Mud? Sand?
> Safety—Which vehicle provides the operator with the greatest level of safety?
> Operator—Who will be operating the vehicle? What age and size are they, or do they have physical limitations?—Have the manufacturers’ instructions for safe operating measures been checked? What training do they have, or will they need? Do I have the necessary skills and expertise to train the operators or will I need to seek external trainers?
> Potential road use—Will the vehicle use sealed and/or public roads? Will I need conditional registration?
> Loads—Will any loads be carried (including spray tanks or other equipment) and how much will it weigh? Will passengers be carried?
> Towing—Will the vehicle be used to tow trailers or other attachments? If so, what is the likely maximum weight and height the vehicle will be expected to tow?
> Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)—What PPE will I need to provide? Helmets (mandatory), gloves? Chemical handling/use protection?

Vehicle options include:

> Ag Bike (2 wheel)
> Side by side vehicle
> Ute or 4WD
> Tractor

Further considerations for each are listed in the accompanying matrix—Choosing the Right vehicle for the job.

Is a quad bike the only vehicle that can be used in the workplace to perform this task?

Refer to Choosing the right vehicle for the job at Attachment 2

Once the most appropriate vehicle is selected, the following requirements apply to all vehicles.

STOP: Conduct a risk assessment
1. Are loads carried (e.g. spray tanks/equipment)?
2. Are loads towed (e.g. trailer)?
3. Are passengers to be carried?

If YES to any of these questions, another vehicle must be used.
If NO to all these questions a quad may be used but must be fitted with a crush protection device (CPD).

Ensure a safe system is in place including documented policies and procedures, which are regularly monitored and reviewed.

A properly maintained vehicle is a safe vehicle. Regular, comprehensive maintenance and pre-operation checks will keep the vehicle in reliable working condition.

Training is essential to help reduce the risk of serious injury or death. Training should be specific to the job/task and cover practical and theoretical components of vehicle use.

Provide workers with safety information relevant to the workplace and the specific job/tasks. Provide clear instructions prior to operation. Ongoing supervision is also an important consideration.

Ensure suitable PPE (including a helmet) is available and used at all times.