The following is a guideline for approximant horsepower (H P) requirements at the Tractor PTO. “Note this is a guideline not an absolute standard”

The lift capacity of the tractor should be considered first before horsepower; make sure to add weights of each attachment including seed box and seed capacity for total implement weight. The tractor should be capable of not just lifting but safely transporting the machine in the lifted position over uneven terrain. A tractor may have the available horsepower to power the attachment however it may not have the capacity to lift and safely operate.

Note; the tractor lift capacity is measured approximately 24” (60 cm) behind the lifting arms and tractor H. P. required is at the PTO not the engine. Look at the tractors specifications for lifting capacity and HP ratings for better accuracy. In addition, it may be necessary to add front weights to offset the attachment weight for safe operation. A good source of tractor specifications is located on line at Tractor Data. Com www.tractordata.com

Implement H P requirements can vary as much as 50% in different soil conditions. Heavy damp soil consumes more H P than sandy dry soils and faster ground speeds require more H P. Slower ground speeds may be necessary in different conditions. In addition; tractor age can also reduce lifting capacity and available H P output.

The below chart is a suggested starting point not an accurate determination of tractor requirements. “The customer is responsible to insure his tractor is capable of handling, operating, lifting and transporting equipment prior to equipment purchase”.

The HP average reflects what each machine consumed using a torque meter while operating in field conditions. The recommendations are from experience due to varying soil conditions and transporting machines in the lifted position over uneven terrain or loading onto a trailer for transport again, weight kits may be needed.

Field conditions can vary HP requirements: data listed does not guarantee tractor compatibility.

UA 40 Avg 16 HP without seeder 20 HP with seeder (Recommend 16 HP with seeder 20 HP) Cat 1
UA 60 Avg 24 HP without seeder 30 HP with seeder (Recommend 30 HP-with seeder 40 HP) Cat 1
UA 80 Avg 30 HP without seeder 36 HP with seeder (Recommend 40 HP-with seeder 50 HP) Cat 1
AG 72 Avg 37 HP without seeder 44 HP with seeder (Recommend 45 HP-with seeder 50 HP) Cat 1or2
AG 96 Avg 45 HP without seeder 55 HP with seeder (Recommend 65 HP - with seeder 70 HP) Cat 2
AG 144 Avg 65 HP without seeder 75 HP with seeder (Recommend 80 HP - with seeder 90 HP) Cat 2

VC-60 Avg 38 HP at 1 MPH full depth in fairly dry soil
50 HP at 3 MPH full depth in fairly dry soil (Recommend min 40 HP) Cat 1

Two wheel drive or four wheel drive is not a determining factor however; the four wheel drive adds front end weight that may reduce the need for an additional front weight kit.