

FAQs on Use of Work or Ploughing Lamps

RSA

What is a work lamp?

Work or ploughing lamps are fitted to the back of agricultural tractors and self-propelled machinery (as shown) to give extra visibility when working on the farm.



What is the law on using work lamps? Work or ploughing lamps may be used in your own private area i.e. field, farmyard etc. but it is illegal to use them on the public road so they must be switched off beforehand.

Is it illegal to have work lamps switched on when using the public road? Road traffic regulations ban the use of white lights to the rear of any vehicle in a public place. In times of darkness it can confuse motorists into thinking that a vehicle is approaching. Only red and amber lighting should appear on the back of a vehicle, not white lamps. In addition these work lamps are highly powered which can cause other road users to be temporarily blinded which is a serious road safety concern.

For further information on the correct operation of agricultural machinery including lighting, see our booklet Revised Standards for Agricultural Vehicles [here](#).

You can also view our videos which visually demonstrate these rules [here](#).