

## Combine Operator Interview Questions

1. Tell me about how you adjust, repair, and service farm machinery and notify supervisors when machinery malfunctions.

2. Describe ways to observe and listen to machinery operation to detect equipment malfunctions.

3. Describe an experience where you had to Irrigate soil, using portable pipes or ditch systems, and maintain ditches or pipes and pumps.

4. Explain how you would mix specified materials or chemicals, and dump solutions, powders, or seeds into planter or sprayer machinery.

5. What are your methods when manipulating controls to set, activate, and adjust mechanisms on machinery.

6. Walk me through how you operate or tend equipment used in agricultural production, such as tractors, combines, and irrigation equipment.

7. Describe a process that will guide products on conveyors to regulate flow through machines, and to discard diseased or rotten products.

8. Share what techniques you would use when loading and unloading crops or containers of materials, manually or using conveyors, handtrucks, forklifts, or transfer augers.

9. Explains ways to weigh crop-filled containers, and record weights and other identifying information.

10. Share an experience where you had to walk beside or ride on planting machines while inserting plants in planter mechanisms at specified intervals.

11. What is your experience driving trucks to haul crops, supplies, tools, or farm workers.

12. Expound how to operate towed machines such as seed drills or manure spreaders to plant, fertilize, dust, and spray crops.

13. Share your experience attaching farm implements such as plows, discs, sprayers, or harvesters to tractors, using bolts and hand tools.

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14. Tell me about procedures used when spraying fertilizer or pesticide solutions to control insects, fungus and weed growth, and diseases, using hand sprayers.

15. Walk me through how you load hoppers, containers, or conveyors to feed machines with products, using forklifts, transfer augers, suction gates, shovels, or pitchforks.

16. What have you found helpful when directing and monitoring the activities of work crews engaged in planting, weeding, or harvesting activities.

17. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, or tested a machine or device that operates mainly by mechanical principles.

18. Tell me about your qualifications for and your experience handling vehicles and/or mechanized equipment.

19. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?

20. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.

21. How do you stay fit in order to perform physical activities that are required in the workplace?

22. Share an experience in which your diligence of inspecting equipment, structures, or materials helped you identify a problem or the cause of a problem.

23. Describe an experience in which you successfully controlled the operation of a difficult system. What made you successful?

24. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

25. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

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26. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
27. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.
28. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
29. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.
30. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?
31. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)
32. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?
33. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?
34. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.
35. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)
36. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)
37. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
38. Tell me about your last experience doing repair work. How did you determine what tools you needed?

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39. Tell me about a time when you successfully determined the cause of an operating error at your company and solved the problem.

40. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

41. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

42. Tell me about the last time you performed routine maintenance on equipment. How did you determine when and what type of work was needed?

43. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

44. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

45. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

46. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

47. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?

48. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

49. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

50. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

51. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

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52. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.
53. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)