Lift Truck Drivers Given Safety Training

There are 850 to 900 lift truck or tow truck drivers at Fieldcrest Mills, including the regular drivers and those who drive only occassionally. Every driver operates his vehicle in an area where other people are at work.

To insure the safety of other employees as well as that of the driver himself, Fieldcrest licenses the drivers only after eye tests, training classes and performance tests.

For more effective, standardized training, Eden area lift truck and tow truck drivers now attend classes conducted each month by the Fieldcrest Training Department. These classes and the performance check are the final steps in the license qualification procedure, a process which begins in the mill with operational training on the lift truck.

In the classes conducted in the Training Department conference room in the AMP building, the drivers receive instruction in principles of operation of lift trucks and tow trucks with emphasis on safety.

The format includes slides and films, discussions of problems and the presentation of actual accident cases with a discussion of the causes and the methods of preventing their recurrence.

Since the centralized procedure was started at Eden in June, in addition to the qualification of those drivers alteady on the job, 35 newly assigned drivers have completed the training. Outlying plants will have similar classes conducted by the mill training coordinator or other instructors whenever there are drivers to be trained.

Under the new procedure, each driver is given an eye test and attends the three-hour training class. He then returns to his mill for a performance test

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Shown above are students in Training Department's most recent lift and tow truck class. Instructor, far left, is Charles Davis, training supervisor.



Eye test is given to Melvin Frazier of the Bedspread Mill by Charles Davis.

Robert Lindsey (right), instructs new driver Percy Wilson.





