

1240 PLANTER



OPERATORS MANUAL

1240
PLANTER

OMA22708 L2 English

JOHN DEERE HARVESTER WORKS
OMA22708 L2

LITHO IN THE U.S.A. (REVISED)
ENGLISH





To the Purchaser

This new planter was carefully designed and manufactured to give years of dependable service. To keep it running efficiently, read the instructions in this operator's manual. Each section is clearly identified so you can easily find the information you need - whether it is operation, lubrication, or service. Read the Table of Contents to learn where each section is located. Use the alphabetical index for fast reference.

In addition to the equipment furnished with your planter, attachments are available to help you do a better job in special crop conditions. These are described in the special equipment section of this manual and can be purchased from your John Deere dealer.

"Right-hand" and "left-hand" sides are determined by facing in the direction the planter will travel when in use.

Record your planter serial numbers in the space provided on page 108. Your dealer needs this information to give you prompt, efficient service when you order parts or attachments. If your planter requires replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you can obtain genuine John Deere parts—accept no substitutes.

The warranty on this planter appears on your copy of the purchase order which you should have received from your dealer when you purchased the planter.

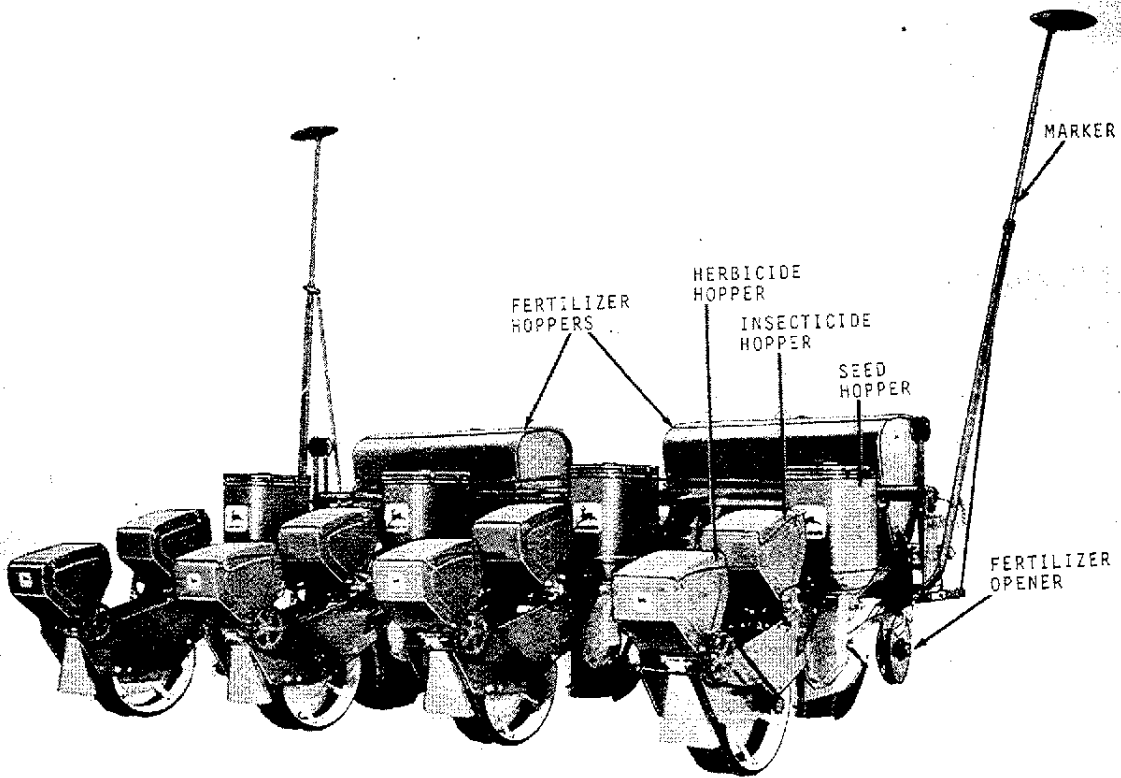


This safety alert symbol identifies important safety messages in this manual. When you see this symbol, be alert to the possibility of personal injury and carefully read the message that follows.



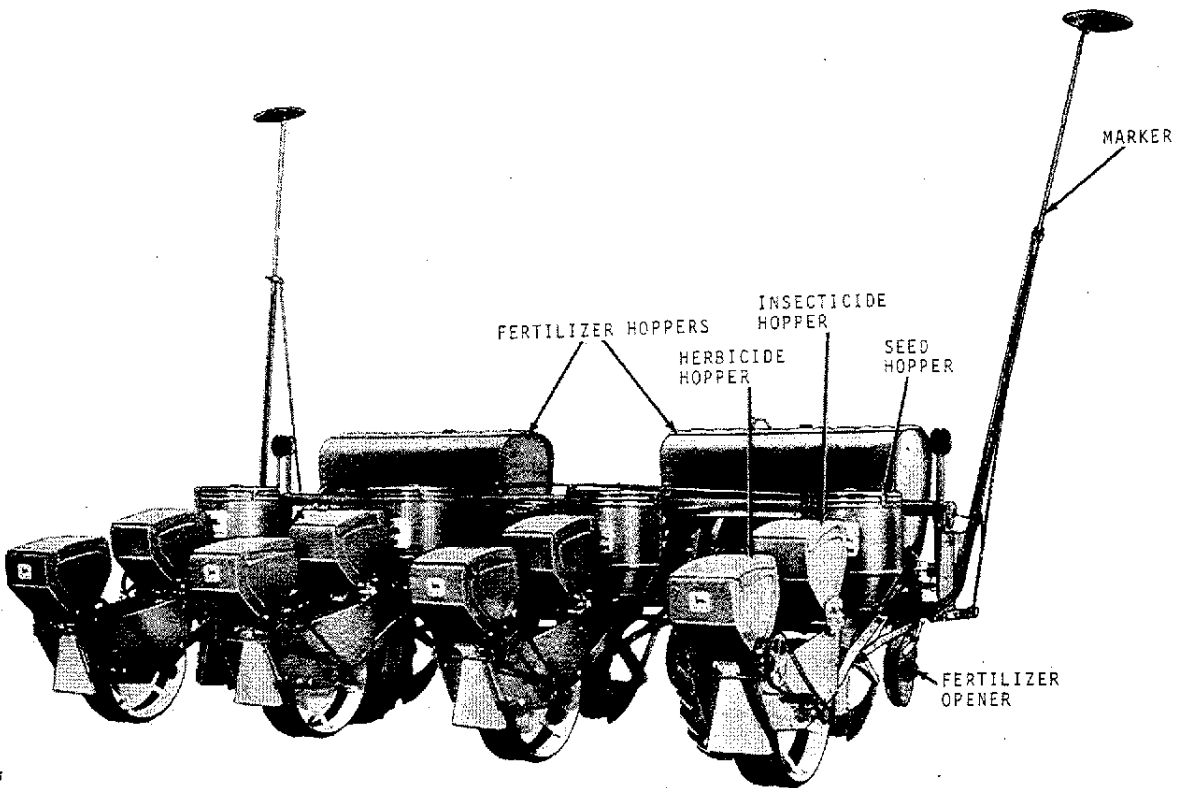
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B 7905

1240 Corn Planter with Plateless Units



B 7906

1240 Corn Planter with Plate Units



Operation

PREPARING THE TRACTOR

The tractor must be equipped with an 8-inch stroke remote hydraulic cylinder that conforms to ASAE-SAE standards.

Adjust the metering valve arm on the tractor selective control valve to limit the rate of extension of the remote hydraulic cylinder.

IMPORTANT: Do NOT raise the planter in less than two seconds. Failure to limit planter raising speed may result in damage to the planter.

For tractors with an adjustable drawbar, place the drawbar approximately 15 inches from the ground and bolt it in the center of the tractor.

If possible, position the tractor wheels 72 inches when planter is set for 32- to 40-inch row spacings, or 60 inches when planter is set for 28- or 30-inch row spacings, center-to-center of tread and equal distance from the center of tractor. The planter ground wheels will then run in the center of the tracks left by the rear wheels of the tractor. If this cannot be done, it is best to adjust the tractor rear wheels so the planter wheels run entirely out of the tractor wheel tracks.

PREPARING THE PLANTER

Lubrication

Be sure your planter has been properly lubricated. Consult the lubrication charts on pages 32, 33, and 34 for guidance in lubricating your planter.

Regular and systematic lubrication is the best assurance against breakdowns and delays. It will help you get better service from your planter and save on your maintenance costs.

Tire Inflation

Be sure 6.70-15 traction-type tires on planter are inflated to 24 psi of air pressure.

Row Widths

The 1240 Planter is available for planting the following row widths:

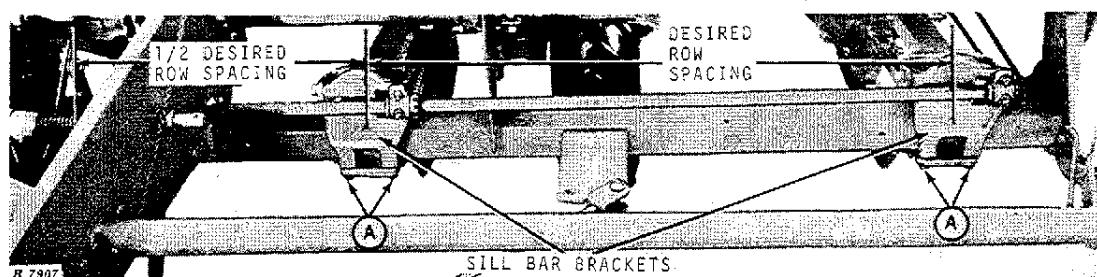
Plateless Planter - 30- through 40-inch row widths.
Plate Planter - 28- through 40-inch row widths.

To change the row widths, proceed as follows:

Lower the planter until the runners rest on the ground. Loosen the bolts in the sill bar brackets and detach the pressure rods from the main frame.

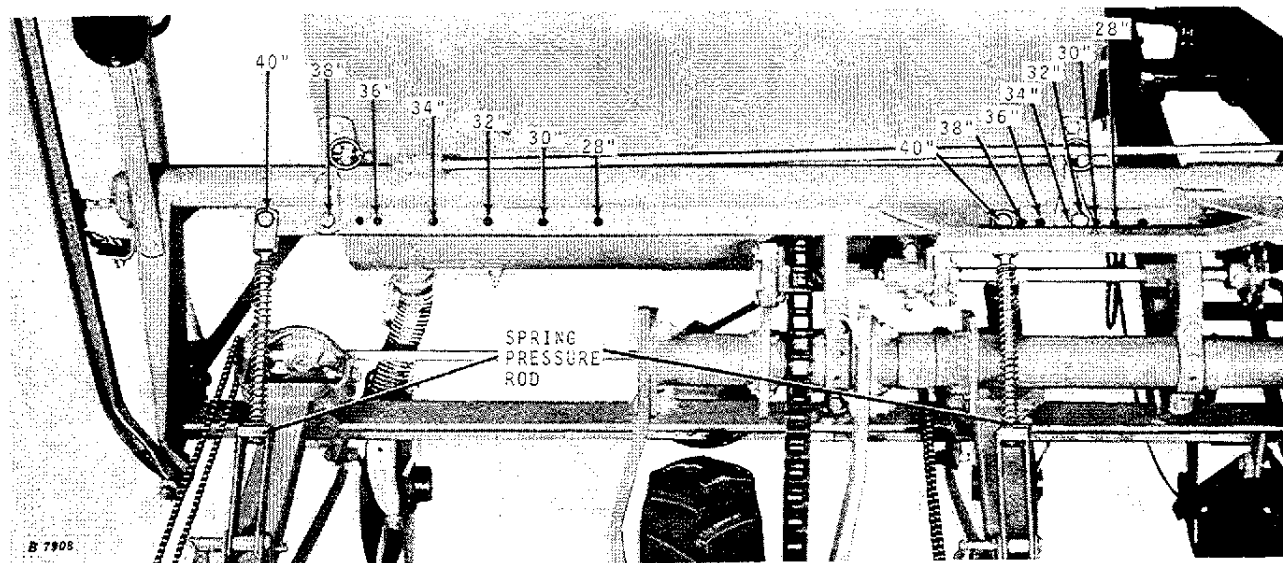
Select the desired row spacing and position the units as follows:

Place one inside unit one-half the distance of the desired row width from the center of the planter frame to the center of the sill bar bracket. Place all other units at the desired row width or multiples of the row width from this unit. Tighten bottom sill bar bracket bolts first as shown at "A." Then tighten back sill bar bracket bolts.

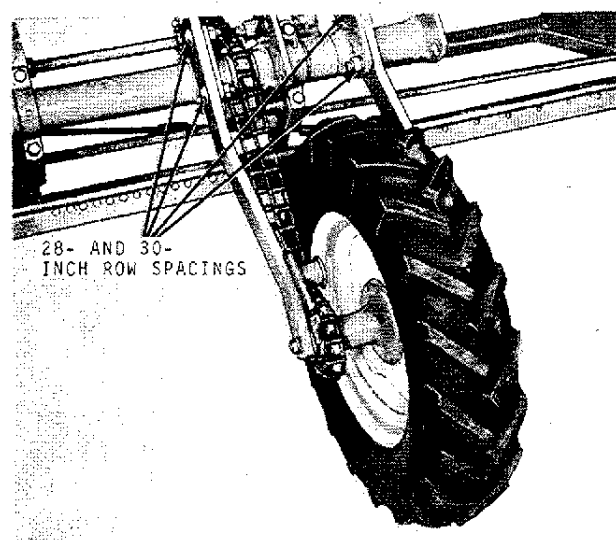


B 7907

Row Widths—Continued

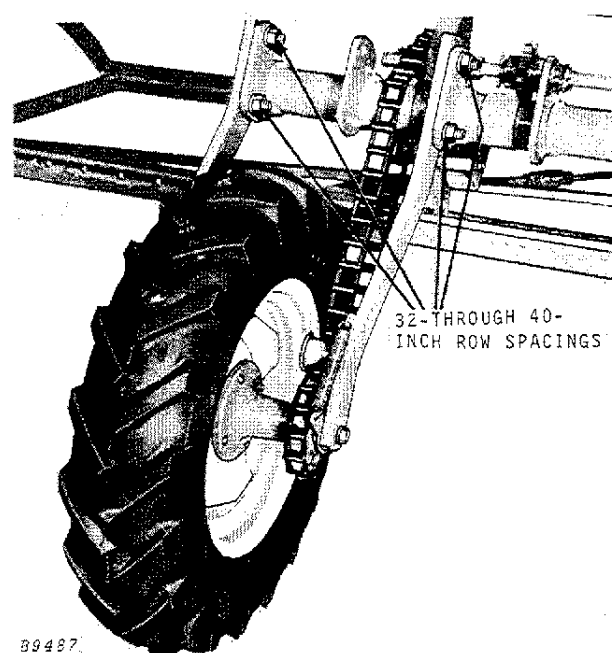


B 7908



B 9486

Wheel Setting for 28-through 30-Inch Row Spacing



B 9487

Wheel Setting for 32- through 40-Inch Row Spacing

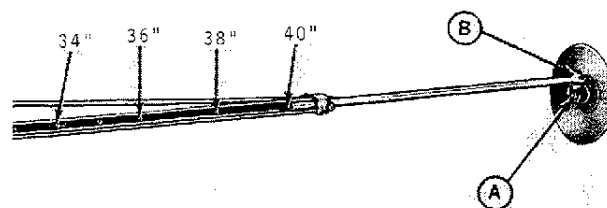
Attach pressure rods to planter frame in appropriate holes as shown above.

Position the drive wheel assemblies in the positions shown for the row spacing desired.

Marker Adjustment

The regular markers on the planter are adjustable for 34-, 36-, 38-, or 40-inch row widths. The marker illustrated is set for 40-inch row widths. To change the markers for other row widths, loosen the setscrews so marker pipes will slide. Set the inside of each marker pipe to line up with the center hole in the marker arm, for approximate widths. Turn each marker pipe so bracket "A" is in position illustrated. Tighten the setscrews securely to hold markers in position. The angle of each marker disk may be adjusted for various soil conditions by loosening bolt "B" and turning the disk. After adjustment is made tighten bolt "B" securely.

If 28- to 32-inch row widths are desired, modify the regular marker components as shown in the SERVICE section on page 35.

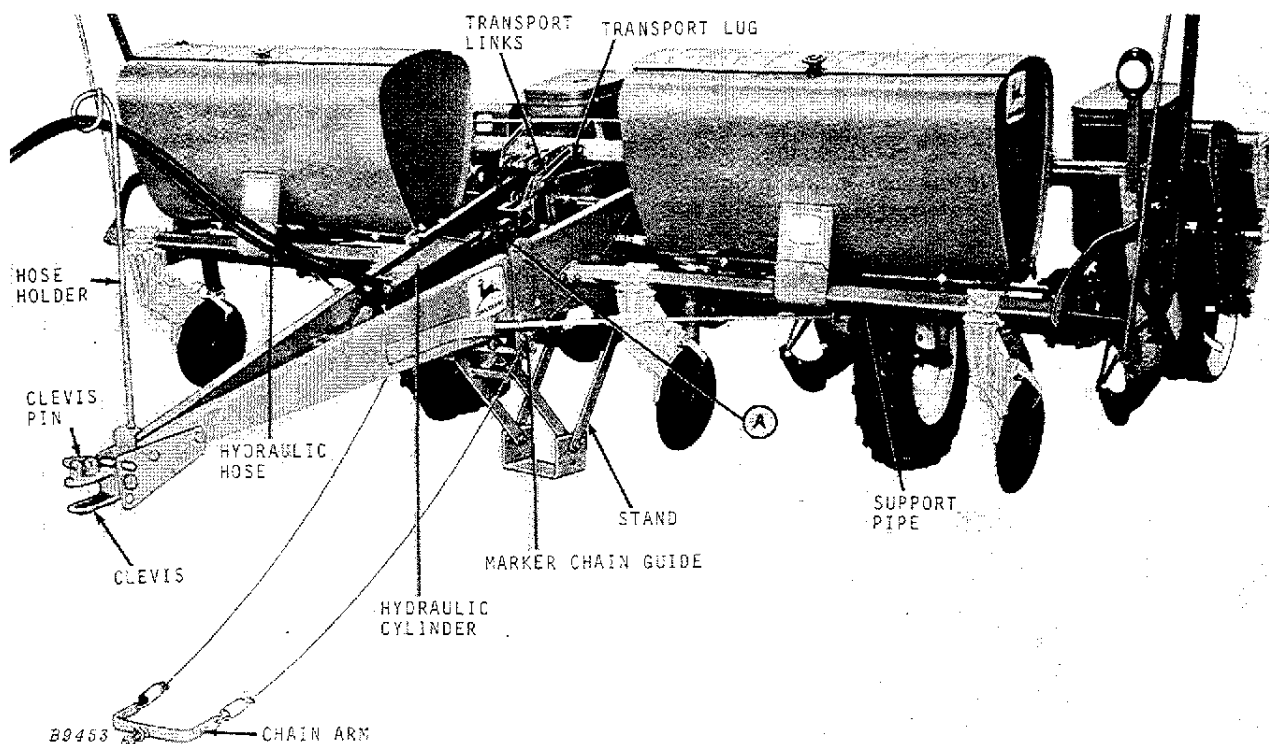


B 7393

Regular Marker

NOTE: If a combination of narrow and regular row spacings is desired, planter may be equipped with separate markers (BB10578B) to obtain narrow row spacings and the regular marker shipped with the planter may be used to obtain the regular 34- through 40-inch row spacings.

HITCHING



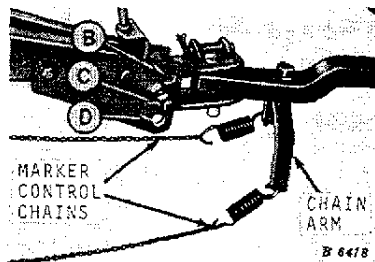
With the planter on the stand, back tractor to planter so planter hitch is straight in line with tractor drawbar. Install remote hydraulic cylinder on planter and set stop "A" so cylinder will retract all the way. This will permit planter press wheels to gauge planting depth. Install hydraulic hose in hose holder. Extend cylinder and disconnect transport links from transport lug.

Remove the clevis pin from the clevis and place it in hitch extension holes, as illustrated, to hold clevis straight out. If clevis is installed in the upper holes, place clevis pin in lower hitch extension holes.

HITCHING—Continued

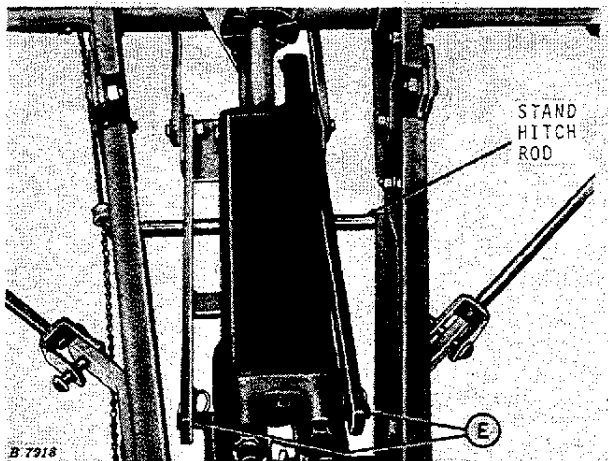
Place the marker control chains over fertilizer drive, if used, under support pipes and through chain guides. Attach the marker control chains to springs and chain arm.

Retract hydraulic cylinder until the planter hitch is the same height as the tractor drawbar. Attach the clevis to the tractor drawbar with the clevis pin and secure in place with the retaining pin as shown. Extend the hydraulic cylinder to raise the planter off the stand.



Attach the chain arm at right angles to the tractor drawbar. Tighten the bolt securely as the marker arm must be held rigidly to the tractor drawbar.

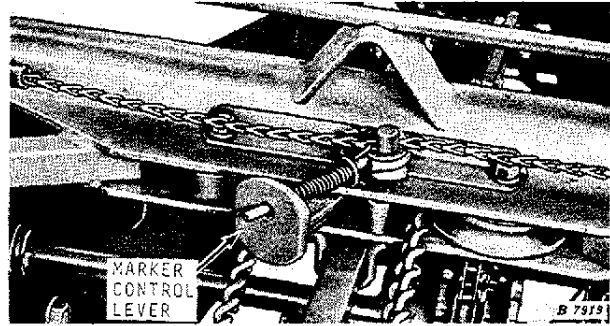
Set the clevis in holes "B," "C," or "D" so the lower edge of the planter hitch is parallel to the ground when in planting position.



Pull the pins and push the planter stand up over the planter stand hitch rod and hook the front legs of the stand over the rod on the hydraulic cylinder bracket at "E." Hold planter stand in place with the pins.

To place the stand back into position for unhooking from planter, reverse the above procedure.

Marker Control Chains



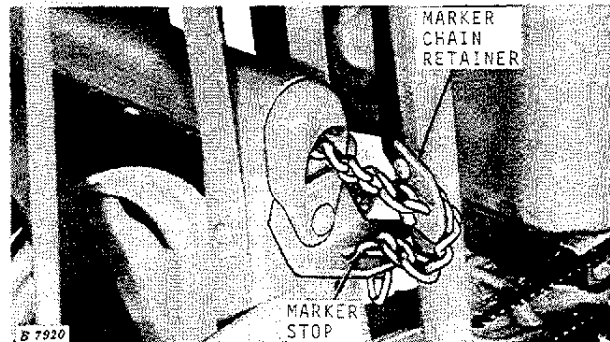
Pull the right-hand control chain until marker control lever points to left-hand side of planter.

Attach the spring to chain arm and hook left-hand marker control chain to spring at shortest link possible, without stretching the spring.

Now pull left-hand marker control chain until marker control lever points to right-hand side of planter.

Attach the spring to chain arm and hook the right-hand marker control chain to spring at the shortest link possible, without stretching the spring.

Marker Lift Chains



With remote hydraulic cylinder extended to maximum length, pull marker lift chains tight at each end of planter and adjust each lift chain in marker retainer so marker arm is snug against the marker stop.

Place loose end of each marker chain in the marker stop.

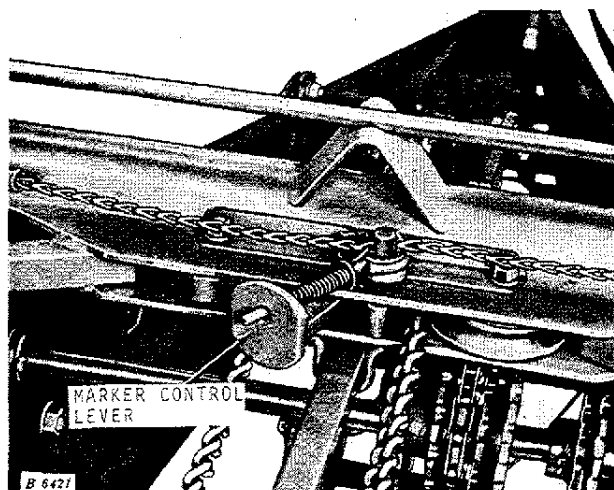
CAUTION: Keep the loose end of each marker chain in the marker stop at all times, except when planting, to prevent marker from falling.

MARKERS

Remove the end of each marker chain from the marker stop before lowering the planter in the field.

NOTE: For planting the last four rows next to a fence, the markers can be held up by inserting the marker chains in the marker stops.

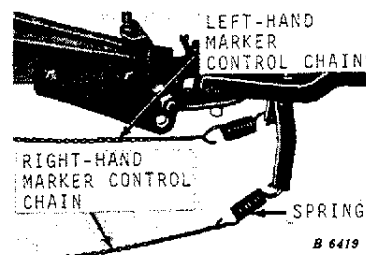
The position of the planter control lever will determine which marker will drop when the planter is lowered.



When the marker control lever points to the left-hand side of the planter, as illustrated, the right-hand marker will drop.

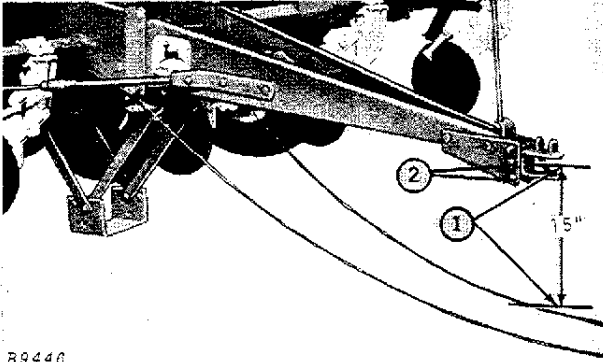
The marker control lever will stay in this position, and the right-hand marker will raise and drop when the planter is raised and lowered until the tractor is turned sharply to the right. Then the left-hand marker control chain will tighten and point the marker lever toward the right-hand side of the planter and the left-hand marker will drop when the planter is lowered.

The marker that is down will automatically raise when the planter is raised.



If the right-hand marker will not drop after a sharp left turn, shorten the right-hand marker control chain at spring, one link at a time, until right-hand marker will drop after a sharp left turn. Shorten the left-hand marker control chain if left-hand marker fails to drop after a sharp right turn.

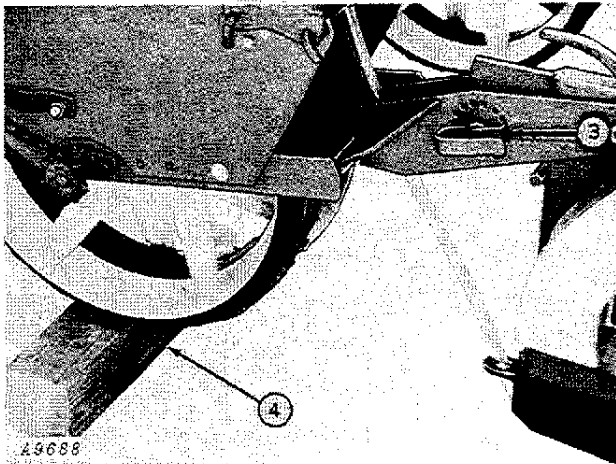
LEVELING PLANTER FRAME AND UNITS



1. Position planter clevis 15 inches from ground to center of clevis when planter is lowered.

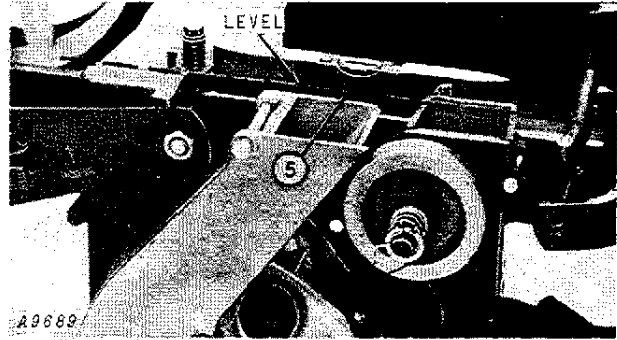
2. Level planter frame by adjustments in planter hitch.

NOTE: To level planter frame, place level on bottom of planter hitch.

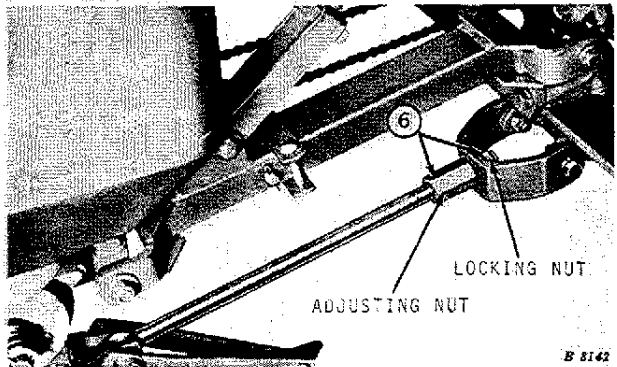


3. Adjust all depth adjusting cams to midway position as shown.

4. Block up press wheels so runners are not touching the ground.



5. Remove seed hopper and place level on top of shank.



6. Level units with sleeve adjusting nut and locking nut on adjustable lower shank drawbar, and tighten locking nut to 150 ft.-lbs. torque.

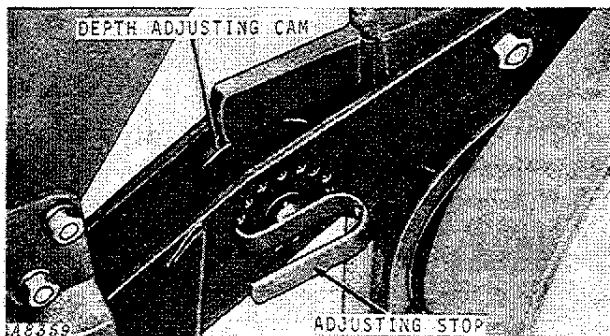
NOTE: Units may require further adjustment in the field.

PLATELESS PLANTING UNITS - DRILL ONLY

Planting Depth

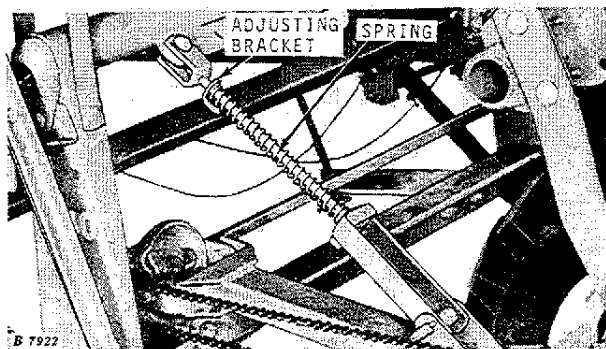
Planting depth is gauged by the planter press wheel and not by the tractor remote hydraulic cylinder. The remote hydraulic cylinder must be fully retracted when planting.

NOTE: When using double-disk furrowers, furrowers gauge depth of seed; planter press wheel gauges depth of furrow.



Planting depth of each unit is determined by the setting of the depth adjusting cam. To decrease planting depth, pull out on the adjusting stop and rotate depth adjusting cam clockwise. To increase planting depth, pull out on adjusting stop and rotate depth adjusting cam counterclockwise. Each hole represents a change of approximately 3/8 inch in planting depth. Adjust all units to plant at the same depth.

If necessary, level units with sleeve adjusting nut and locking nut. Torque locking nut to 150 ft-lbs.

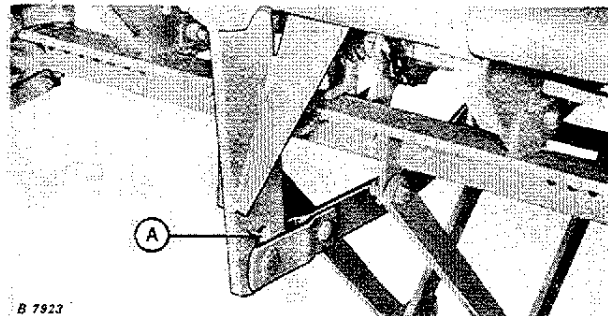


Each planting unit has a spring which can be adjusted to vary the down pressure on the planting unit. If the runner tends to ride out of the ground, raise the planter and move the adjusting bracket down to the next position.

NOTE: Do not attempt to penetrate the plow pan. In hard soil conditions, this could cause the planter drive wheels to raise off the ground.

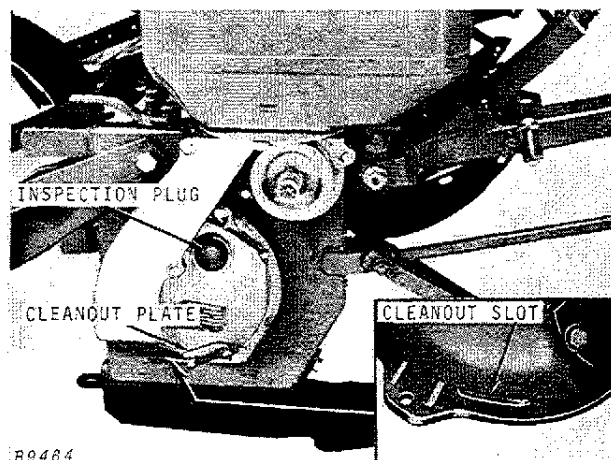
Adjust all planting units so the spring pressure is the same on each unit.

NOTE: When operating in the field, lower the planter only when the tractor is moving forward. This will prevent the planter runners from clogging in moist soil conditions.



In some field conditions where planter frame must be closer to ground than normal, and when there is no additional adjustment in pressure rod, position lift arm in hole "A" in wheel frame.

Inspection and Cleanout



If seed hoppers are not empty, be certain to turn the selector gates to the "OFF" position or seed will escape from hopper through cleanout hole.

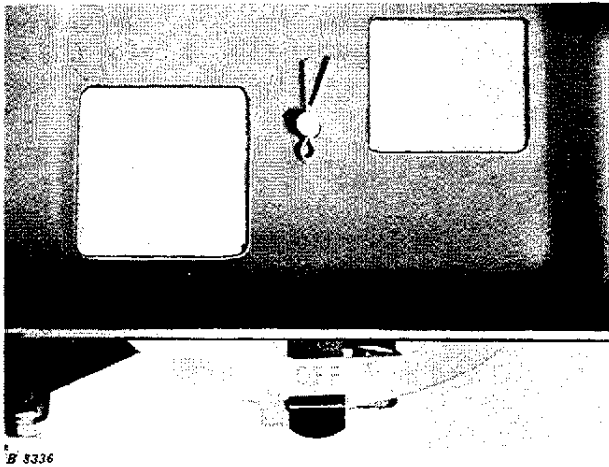
Remove INSPECTION PLUG and check fingers periodically. See SERVICE section, pages 35-42.

For best operation remove CLEANOUT PLATE and clean out finger pickup housing after each day's use.

Be certain the CLEANOUT SLOT on the underside of the finger pickup housing is not clogged. This will help prevent a buildup of dust and chaff inside the mechanism.

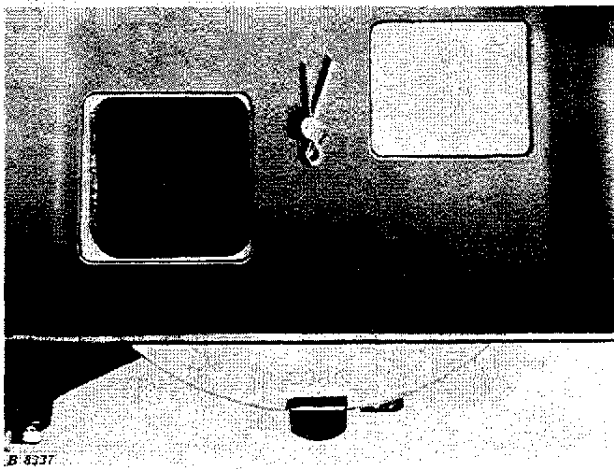
Selector Gate

The selector gate has three positions marked as follows: OFF, BEANS & SORGHUM, and CORN.

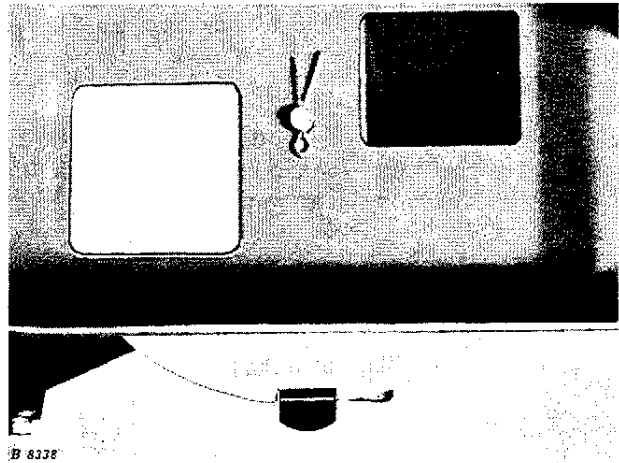


Before removing the hopper, turn the selector gate to the OFF position to close the opening in the hopper bottom.

NOTE: Be sure to turn selector gate to OFF position for transporting.



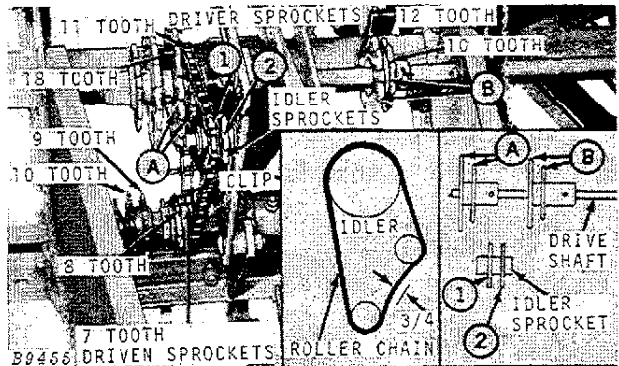
To plant corn with the finger pickup section of the planter, move the selector gate from the OFF position in a clockwise direction until it locks in place in the position marked CORN.



To plant soybeans, maize, or other small grain with the precision feed cup section of the planter, move the selector gate from OFF position in a counter-clockwise direction until it locks in place in the position marked BEANS & SORGHUM. For instructions on using precision feed cup see page 15.

DRILLING DISTANCES AND PLANT POPULATION

The sprocket combinations in the DRILLING DISTANCE chart provide different drilling distances between seeds.



18- and 11-Tooth Driver Sprocket and No. 1 Idler Sprocket Combination

Position the chain idler so there is 3/4-inch slack in the drive chain.

NOTE: No. 1 Idler Sprocket is used with the 18- and 11-Tooth Driver Sprocket combination at "A."

No. 2 Idler Sprocket is used with the 12- and 10-Tooth Driver Sprocket combination at "B."

The 12- and 10-Tooth Sprocket can be stored as shown when not in use.

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