

# NO. "400" SERIES ROD WEEDER



JOHN DEERE

## OPERATORS MANUAL NO. "400" SERIES ROD WEEDER

OMD2656 (01JUN56) English

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ENGLISH



## TO THE PURCHASER

The purpose of this manual is to furnish valuable information about your new "400" Series Rod Weeder. In this manual you will find instructions and helpful suggestions for operating, hitching, transporting, adjusting, lubricating, setting-up, and servicing your new weeder.

Keep this manual in a convenient place for quick and easy reference. Use it as a guide whenever questions arise. You have purchased a dependable, sturdy machine, but only by proper care and operation can you expect to receive the service and long life designed and built into it.

If you need additional information, or if your weeder requires special servicing, see your John Deere dealer—he has all the facilities required to keep your weeder in A-1 condition. He will be glad to serve you.

Sometime in the future your weeder may need new parts to replace worn or broken parts or for emergency repair. If so, go to your John Deere dealer. He will see that you get high-quality, genuine John Deere parts. When ordering, be sure to give him the description of the part desired. Also provide your dealer with the model number of your Rod Weeder, its type, and year purchased. This information will help him identify the part you need. We suggest that this information be recorded immediately in the space provided below, thereby making it available for future reference.

If, after much active work, your Rod Weeder requires attention, go to your John Deere dealer for parts or special service as soon as possible. By giving your weeder proper attention during slack periods it will always be ready for use, without delays, when you need it.

**John Deere No. . . . . Rod Weeder  
with**

**Five-inch drive wheel . . . . .**

**Nine-inch drive wheel . . . . .**

**Date Purchased . . . . . 19 . . . . .**

*(To be filled in by purchaser)*

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## SPECIFICATIONS

**Dimensions** (with 5-inch drive wheel, rear and endway transport).

*Operating Position:*

Over-all Length.....	11 ft. 3 in.
Over-all Width.....	15 ft. 2 in.

*Transport Position:*

Over-all Length.....	18 ft.
Over-all Width.....	6 ft. 5 in.

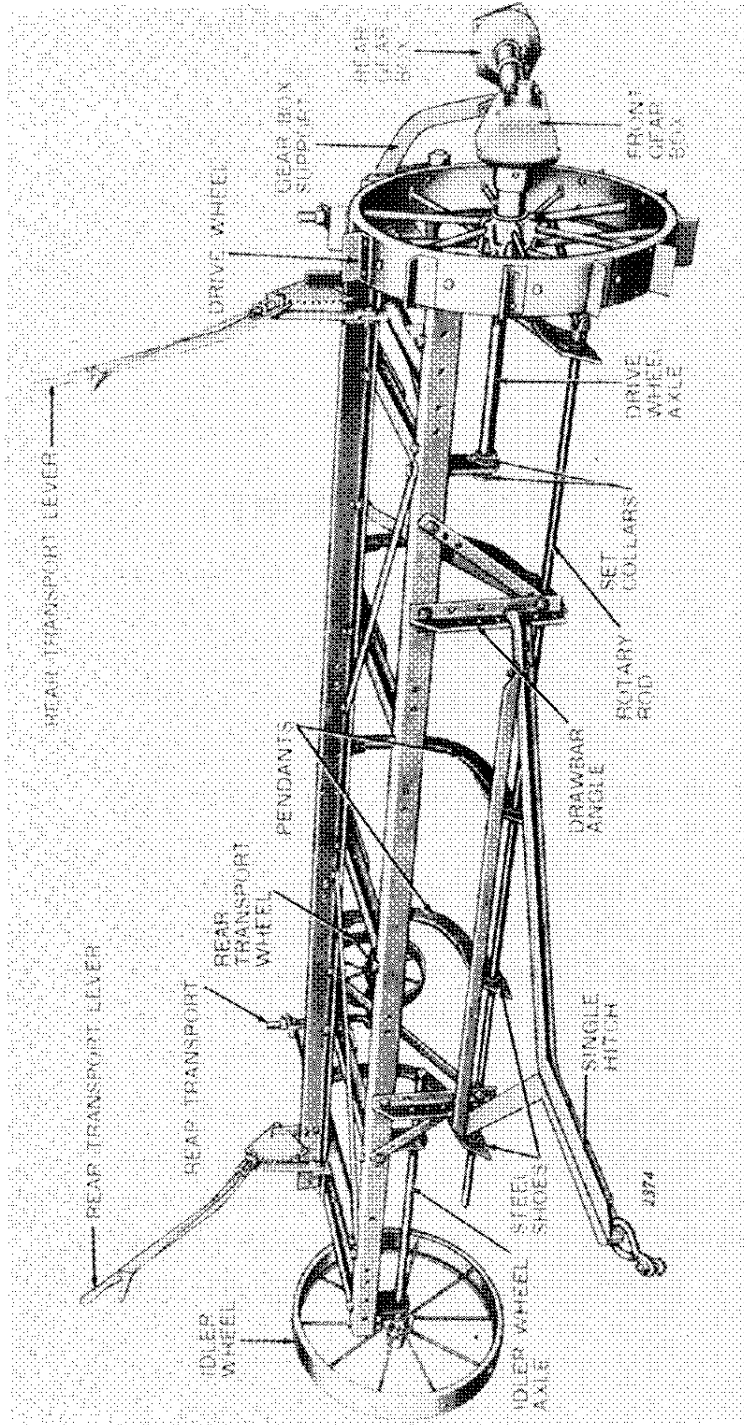
**Weights** (Single Units with Tractor Hitch, Rear and Endway Transport).

With Four High-Clearance Pendants, 5-inch Drive Wheel.....	903 lbs.
With Four High-Clearance Pendants, 9-inch Drive Wheel.....	937 lbs.
With Five High-Clearance Pendants, 5-inch Drive Wheel.....	953 lbs.
With Five High-Clearance Pendants, 9-inch Drive Wheel.....	987 lbs.

**Average Power Required.**

Single-Hitch Unit.....	John Deere Model "50" Tractor
Double-Hitch Unit.....	John Deere Model "60" Tractor
Triple-Hitch Unit.....	John Deere Model "70" Tractor

*(Detail design subject to change without notice)*



*John Deere "400" Series Rod Weeder in Operating Position*

## DESCRIPTION

The "400" Series Rod Weeder may be used as a single unit weeder, or two and three machines may be combined, by means of simple hook-ups, to make two- and three-unit weeders. Each unit has a 12-foot rotary rod.

The weeder is usually supplied with five pendants and a 5-inch wide drive wheel. However, to meet certain soil conditions, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, a "Portland type" weeder is available with four or five pendants and an extra wide (9-inch) drive wheel.

The weeder is furnished with high-clearance pendants.

The weeder may be assembled with the drive wheel on either the left or the right side. Both the drive wheel and the idler wheel, which turn on the axles, have replaceable boxes. The idler wheel and drive wheel axles, as well as the steel shoes, can be reversed when worn, thereby doubling the life of these wearing parts.

Adjustable brackets, which attach the axles to the frame, enable the operator to lower and raise the front of the machine for more or less penetration. Hitch adjustments are also provided for controlling penetration.

Caster-wheel type rear transport and lifting devices are available which will raise the weeder while it is being transported to and from the field. The rear transport and lifting devices are placed in use by easily-operated levers. Adjustment for clearance during transport can be made by raising or lowering the caster wheels. Brackets and a hitch may also be furnished for endway transportation, making it easy to travel on highways, get through gates, or store the weeder in narrow sheds. Endway transportation is accomplished by shifting the idler wheel from its normal operating position to the front of the weeder.

## OPERATING AND ADJUSTING

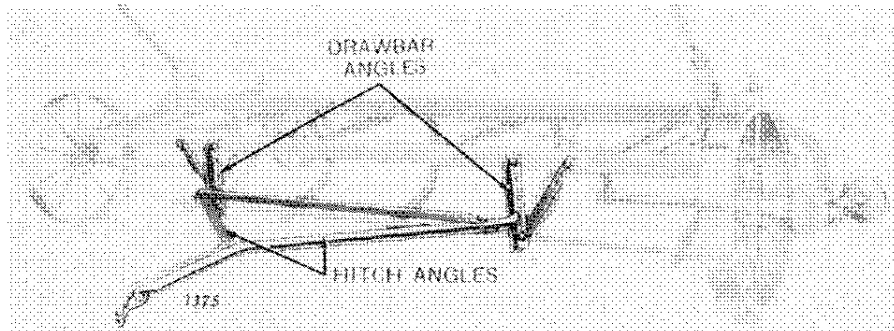
### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

John Deere No. "400" Series Rod Weeders are ruggedly built and simple to operate. However, their length of life and maximum operating efficiency depend largely upon proper lubrication and good use of simple adjustments that are provided to meet varying soil conditions.

Before using the rod weeder, make sure it is correctly set up (pages 10 to 18) and properly lubricated (pages 8 and 9). See that all moving parts work freely without binding, and check all bolts and nuts for tightness.

### HOW TO HITCH SINGLE AND MULTIPLE UNITS

#### Single-Unit Hitch.

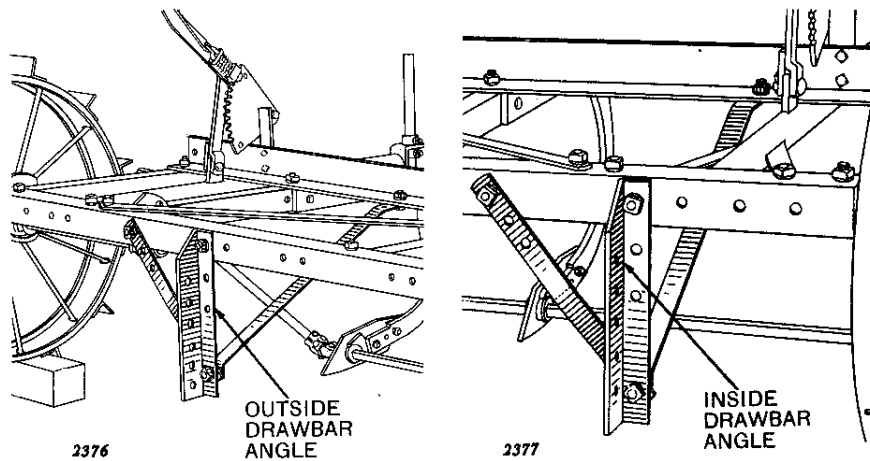


When Rod Weeder is to be used as a single-unit machine, attach hitch angles to drawbar angles as shown above.

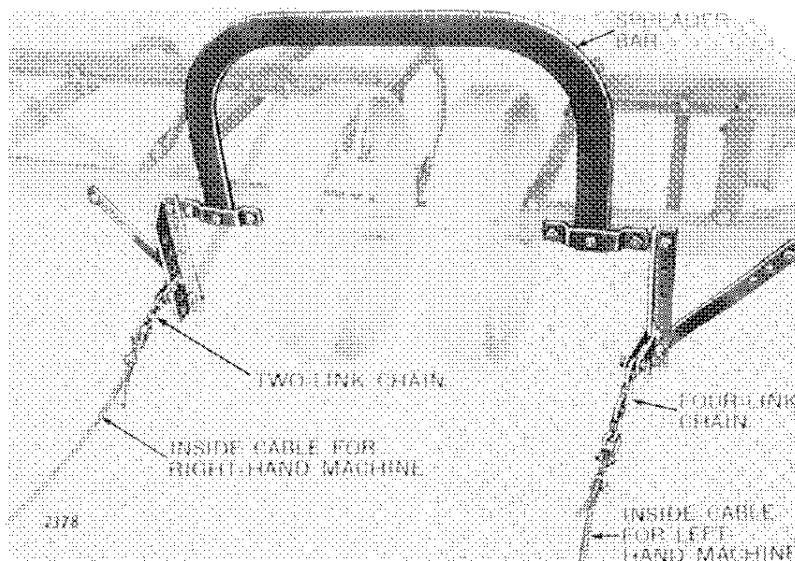
Greater penetration is secured if tractor hitch is set low as in this illustration.

#### Double-Unit Hitch.

If two Rod Weeders are to be used as a double-unit machine, one unit must be assembled right hand and one left hand with the idler wheels together and the left-hand weeder set 4 inches back of the right-hand weeder. (See *Setting-Up Instructions*, page 12.)



Attach outer and inner drawbar angles and braces to both machines as shown above.



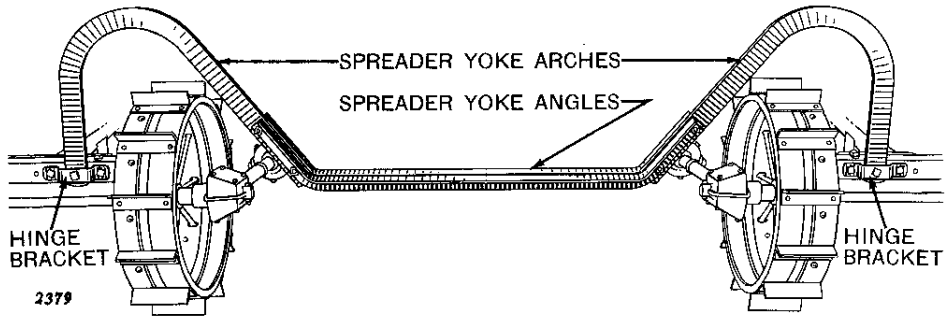
Attach spreader bar to both weeders as illustrated.

Connect the cables to the drawbar angles. Notice that the inside cable end of the left-hand weeder has two more chain links than the inside cable end of the right-hand weeder. The difference in the number of links allows the left-hand weeder to set 4 inches back of the right-hand weeder. The chain links are provided on the cable ends for ease of adjustment in lining up both machines.

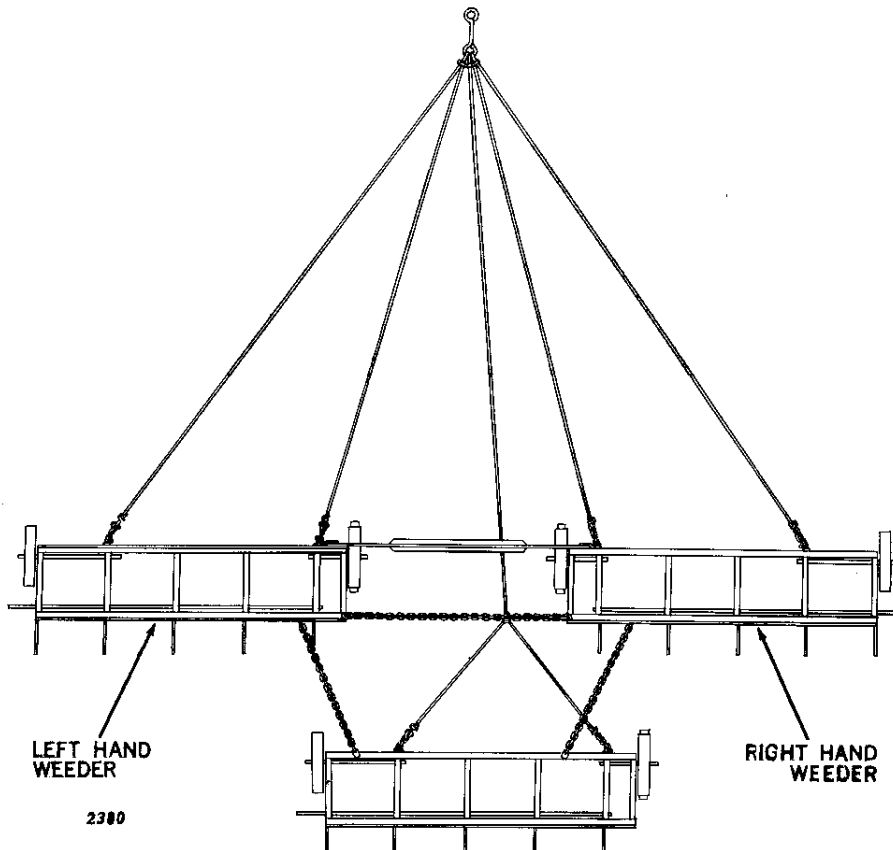
More penetration can be obtained by attaching the hitch cables lower on the drawbar angles.

### Triple-Unit Hitch.

If three Rod Weeders are to be used as a triple-unit machine, two units must be assembled with drive wheels to the center and the third machine with drive wheel to the right. (See *Setting-Up Instructions*, page 12.)



Attach the hinge brackets, spreader yoke arches, and spreader yoke angles to a right-hand machine and the left-hand machine exactly as shown above, with both drive wheels to the center.





Attach drawbar angles in the positions illustrated on opposite page. Connect chains and cables as shown, making sure that the drive wheel of the rear weeder is **to the right**.

Greater penetration can be obtained by attaching the hitch cables lower on the drawbar angles.

## TRANSPORTING THE WEEDER

### To Transport in Operating Position.

When the Rod Weeder is equipped with rear transport and lifting devices, it is a simple matter to transport it in operating position or to raise the rod from the soil. Just pull down on the levers, thereby transferring the load to the rear transport caster wheels and lifting the pendants and rotary rod from the ground.

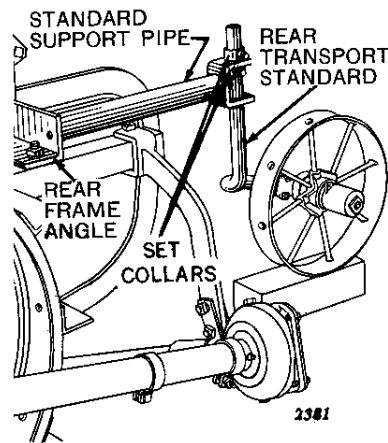
Adjustment for height of lift can be made by loosening set screws on set collars, raising or lowering the standard support pipe on the rear transport standard to the height desired, and then tightening set screws. Maximum lift is obtained when rear frame angle rests on standard support pipe with weeder at maximum operating depth.

For installation of rear transport and lifting devices, see *Setting-Up Instructions*, pages 17 and 18.

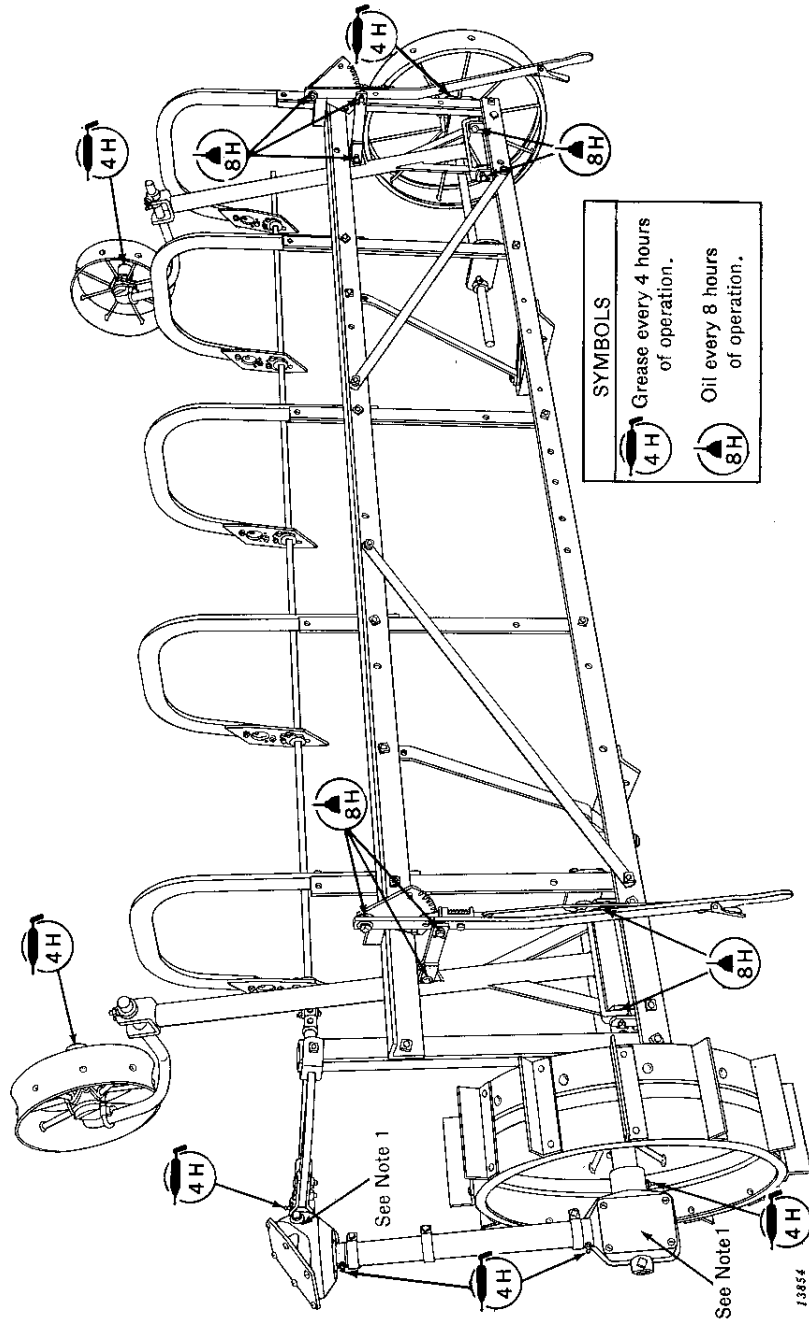
### Endway Transport.

Special brackets (when ordered) make it easy to transport or store the weeder endways, provided it is equipped with rear transport wheels. Remove the set collar which secures the idler wheel in operating position and remove idler wheel and axle. Install wheel and axle in endway transport brackets and secure them in place by installing a set collar on end of axle behind rear bracket. Attach end transport hitch to brackets on idler wheel end of frame, securing it in place with cotter pins.

For installation of endway transport brackets, see *Setting-Up Instructions*, page 18.



# LUBRICATION



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