

John Deere 250 Side-Mounted Mower



OPERATORS MANUAL John Deere 250 Side-Mounted Mower

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To the Purchaser

Your new mower 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 mower, attachments are available to help you do a better job in special crop conditions. These are described in the attachment section of this manual and can be purchased from your John Deere dealer.



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.

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

Record your mower serial number in the space provided on page 38. Your dealer needs this information to give you prompt, efficient service when you order parts. If your mower requires replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you can obtain Genuine John Deere parts—accept no substitutes.

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

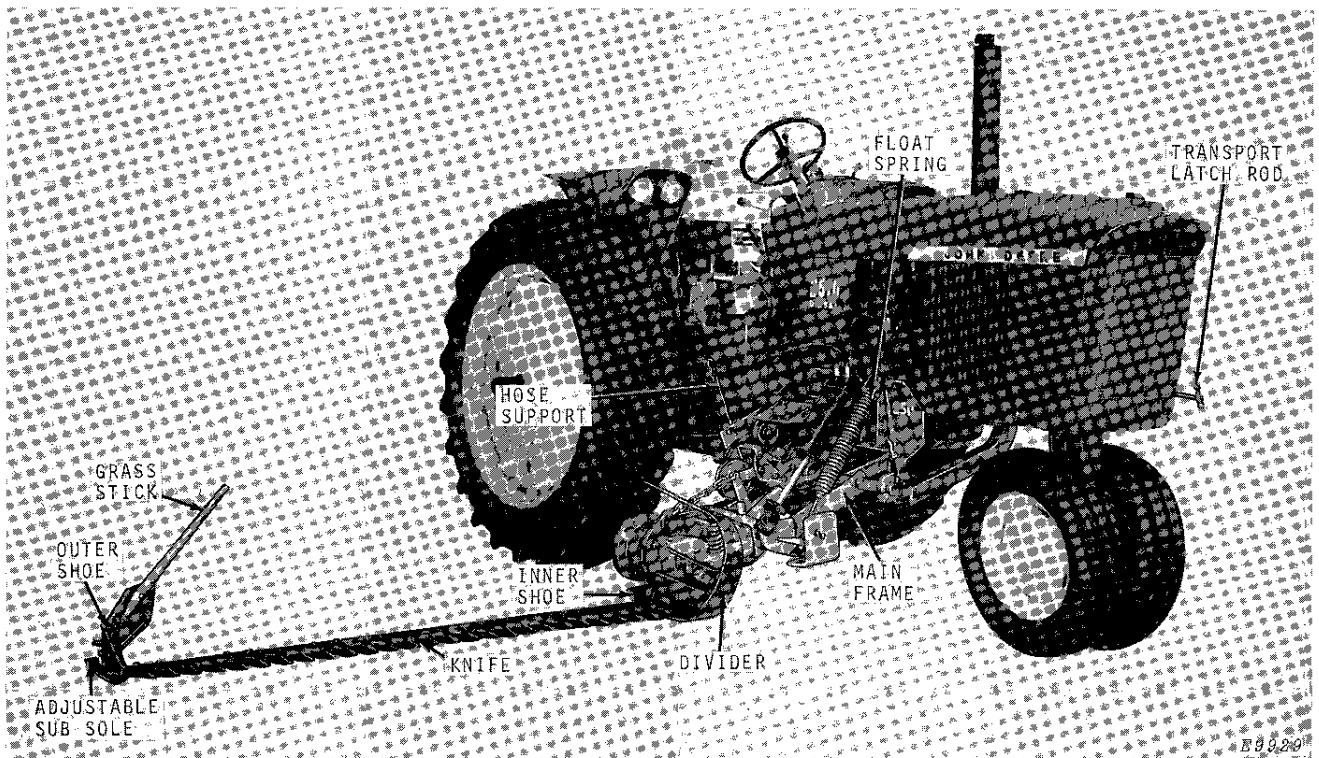


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John Deere 250 Side-Mounted, Rear PTO Drive Mower



John Deere 250 Side-Mounted, Mid PTO Drive Mower



Operation

PREPARING THE MOWER

The degree of satisfaction given by your mower is directly dependent upon the care given by the operator. Once the mower has been adjusted to meet the crop condition, the rest is up to the operator.

Understand the Function of All Working Units

This mower is built to handle a wide range of conditions. Field conditions vary from year to year, from day to day, and even from hour to hour. Different varieties of crops present widely different mowing problems. A careful study of the adjustments on your mower, and what they accomplish under different conditions, will allow you to reap the many benefits and economies that a mower can provide.

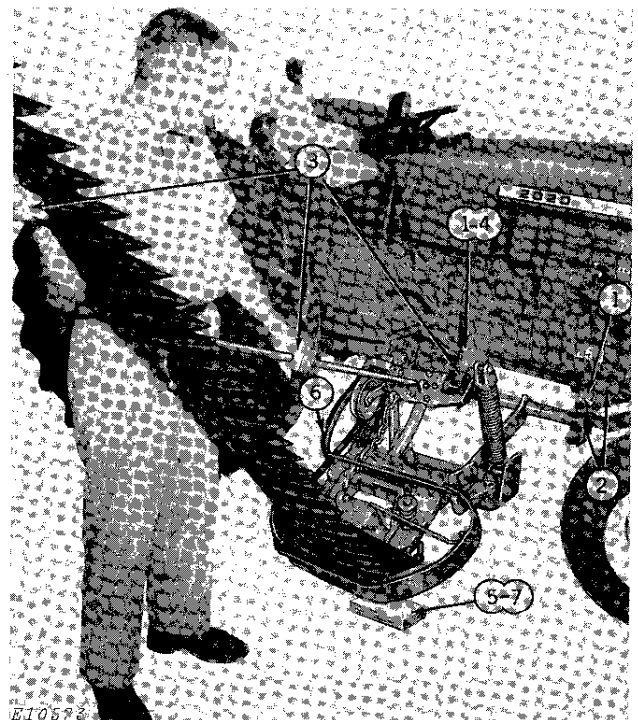
Before starting your mower in the field, be sure you are thoroughly familiar with the function of each working unit. Study the illustrations carefully and become familiar with the adjustments necessary to obtain best results.

Lubrication

Check to see that your mower has been lubricated according to lubricating instructions, pages 10 and 11.

Attaching Mid PTO Drive Mower to Tractor

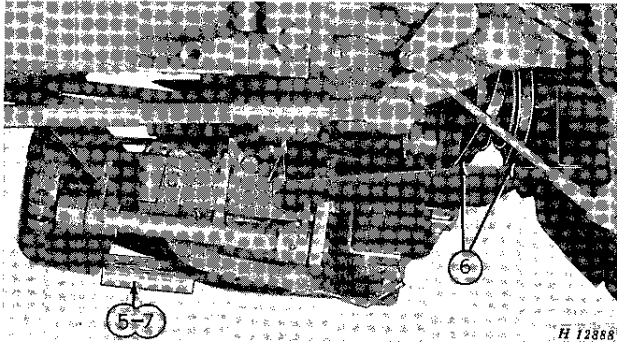
NOTE: If hanger assembly or drive parts have been removed from tractor, replace as shown on pages 25 through 31.



1. Remove locking pins and turn cranks until latches are fully open.
2. Position the tractor so latches are adjacent to and in line with attaching points on mower frame.
3. Hold transport latch rod with left hand and back side of cutterbar with right hand. Raise mower and let rear part of mower frame come to rest in rear latch.
4. Turn rear crank clockwise as far as it will go, then turn counterclockwise ten or twelve turns.

PREPARING THE MOWER—Continued

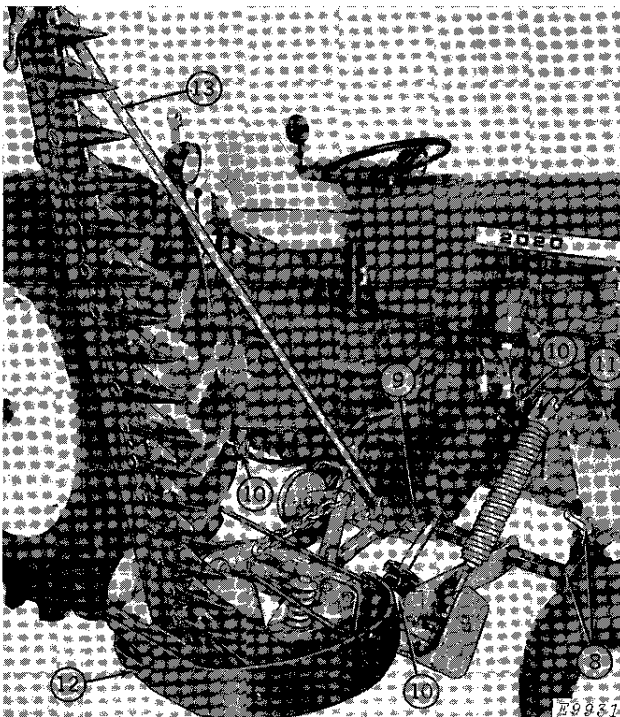
Attaching Mid PTO Drive Mower to Tractor—Continued



5. Rock mower to the rear and place a small block of wood underneath front of inner shoe so mower is steady.

6. Push the two drive belts towards drive sheave, being certain they are free of tightener. Slip onto drive sheave and place underneath tightener.

7. Remove block of wood from underneath inner shoe.



8. Rock mower until frame comes to rest in front latch. Turn crank clockwise as far as it will go and secure with spring locking pin.

9. Turn rear crank clockwise as far as it will go and secure with spring locking pin.

10. Attach remote hydraulic cylinder.

CAUTION: To avoid injury from escaping hydraulic oil under pressure, relieve the pressure in the system by moving the hydraulic control levers in both directions before attaching couplers.

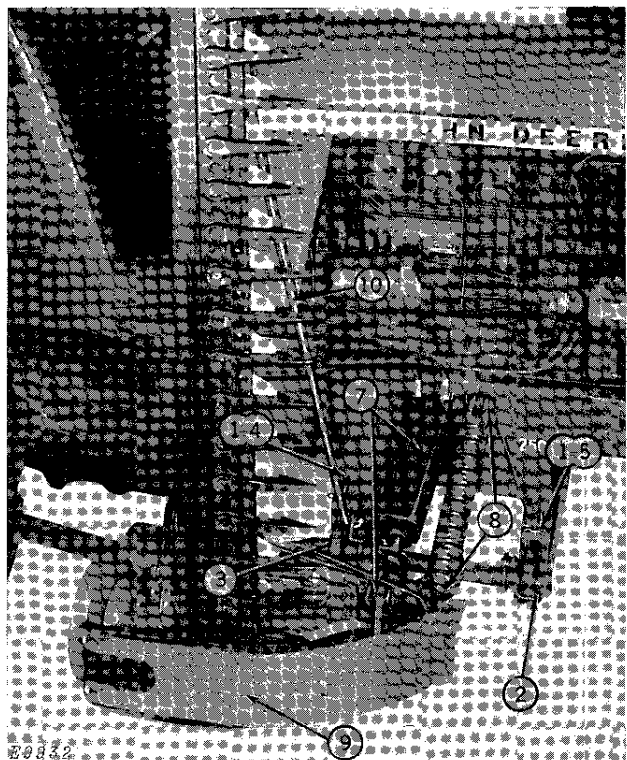
11. Start tractor engine, raise cutterbar and attach float spring.

12. Lower inner shoe to ground and shut off tractor engine.

13. Remove transport latch rod and lower cutterbar to ground. Store transport latch rod on left-hand side of tractor.

Attaching Rear PTO Drive Mower to Tractor

NOTE: If hanger assembly and drive parts have been removed from tractor, replace as shown on pages 25 through 31.



1. Remove locking pins and turn cranks until latches are fully open.

2. Position the tractor so latches are adjacent to and in line with attaching points on mower frame.

3. Hold transport latch rod with left hand and back side of cutterbar with right hand. Raise mower and let rear part of mower frame come to rest in rear latch.

4. Turn rear crank clockwise as far as it will go, then turn counterclockwise ten or twelve turns.

5. Rock mower until frame comes to rest in front latch. Turn crank clockwise as far as it will go and secure with spring locking pin.

6. Turn rear crank clockwise as far as it will go and secure with spring locking pin.

7. Attach remote hydraulic cylinder.

8. Start tractor engine, raise cutterbar and attach float spring.

9. Lower inner shoe to ground and shut off tractor engine.

10. Remove transport latch rod and lower cutterbar to ground. Store transport latch rod on left-hand side of tractor.



11. Attach PTO hookup to mower and secure with spring lock pins.

MOWER OPERATION

Break-In

Operate mower at half speed for 15 minutes. Disengage PTO and stop tractor engine; check bearings for overheating.

Start tractor engine and while idling, slowly engage PTO. Increase engine speed and operate mower at rated PTO speed for 30 minutes.

After mower has operated for a total of 45 minutes, stop tractor engine and check mower to see that all nuts and bolts are tight.

CAUTION: Always disengage power to cutterbar and shut off tractor engine before dismounting from tractor.

Operating Speed

Various mowing conditions require different mowing speeds. Best results will be obtained by running the tractor at the travel speed that will meet crop and field conditions, or the speed providing the smoothest mowing action.

Avoid excessive speeds. Reasonable speeds result in more work being accomplished by the end of the day.

Operate tractor engine to obtain the SAE rated PTO speeds. Running the engine at slow speed reduces the knife speed and may cause the knife to clog where cutting is heavy. Where difficult conditions make it necessary to slow down the travel speed of tractor, shift to a lower gear rather than retard the engine speed. By shifting to a lower gear, the engine will maintain its rated speed, which will keep the knife running at the proper speed for best results.

IMPORTANT: Do not engage PTO with engine running at high speed. Do not operate tractor PTO at more than rated PTO speed. To do so may cause undue wear or possible breakage.

MOWER OPERATION—Continued

Turning Corners

This mower will cut neat, square corners. It is seldom necessary to raise the cutterbar at corners. Turn quickly when near the end of cut, using brake to pivot right-hand wheel of tractor.

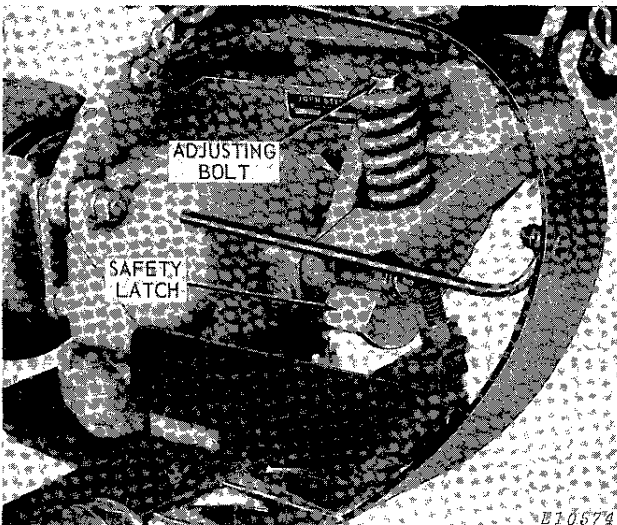
When turning corners to the left, run tractor in low gear. The cutterbar swings around faster when turning in this direction and this, of course, increases the possibility of striking an unnoticed fence post or some other obstacle.

Gummy Trash on Cutterbar

To remove gummy trash that packs on wearing plates and guards, operate slowly and pour water on bar. Do not allow trash to harden.

Operating Adjustments

Safety Spring Release



A safety spring release prevents damage to the mower by allowing the cutterbar to swing back when an obstruction is encountered during operation.

After the safety latch releases and the cutterbar swings back, it is not necessary to leave the tractor seat. Just cramp the front wheels to the left and back up the tractor until the mower is in normal position and the safety latch catches.

Spring tension may be adjusted by means of the adjusting bolt. Tighten adjusting bolt (clockwise) only enough to assure that bar will not release under normal cutting conditions.

Attaching Implement to Rear PTO Drive

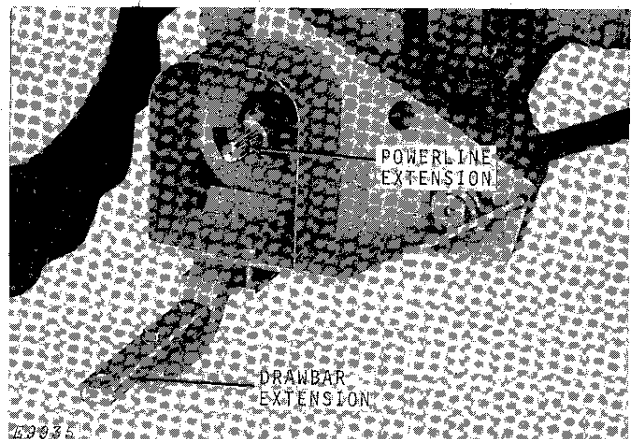
CAUTION: Limit drawbar weight to 1500 pounds or less. Never attach an implement that requires more than 50 horsepower to operate.

If another implement is to be used behind your tractor it is not necessary to remove the rear PTO drive mower. To attach another implement, remove the rear end of the mower powerline and place in the carrier as shown below.



Attach the implement to the drawbar extension and to powerline extension shown below.

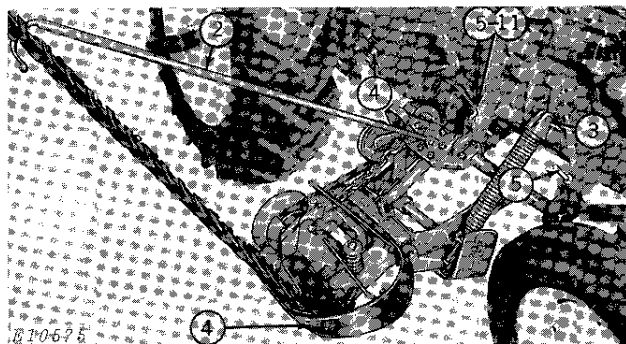
IMPORTANT: Keep the implement PTO hookup sliding shaft well lubricated to prevent high thrust loads on PTO shaft.



IMPORTANT: Be sure drawbar dimension is 14 inches from end of powershaft to the center of the hole in the drawbar. (See your implement operators manual.)

Removing Mower From Tractor

1. On rear drive mower, remove the powerline from the mower.

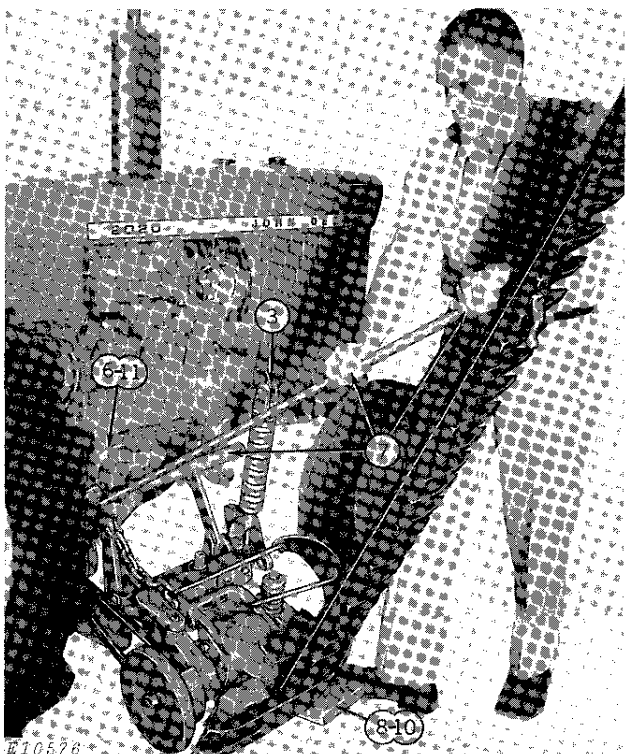


2. Raise cutterbar by hand and attach transport latch rod.

3. Start tractor engine and raise cutterbar until float spring adjusting bolt protrudes out of adjusting bracket (all tension removed from spring). Disconnect float spring from hanger. Replace drilled pin and spring locking pin in clevis.

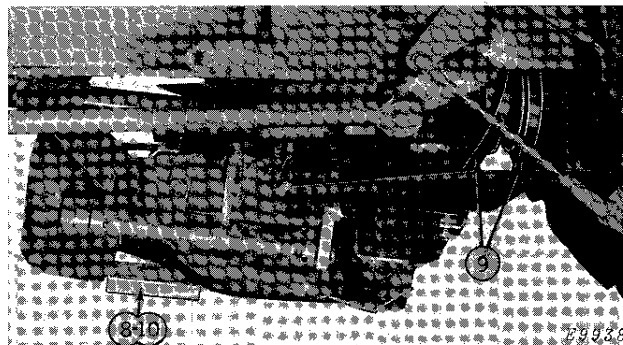
4. Lower mower to ground, remove remote hydraulic cylinder from mower and place on tractor operator's platform until mower is removed, then store cylinder on transport arm at rear of tractor. Shut off tractor engine.

5. Remove spring locking pin from front crank and turn crank counterclockwise until latch is fully open.



6. Remove spring locking pin from rear crank and turn crank counterclockwise ten or twelve turns.

7. Take hold of the transport latch rod with both hands and then rock the mower until it is free of the front latch.



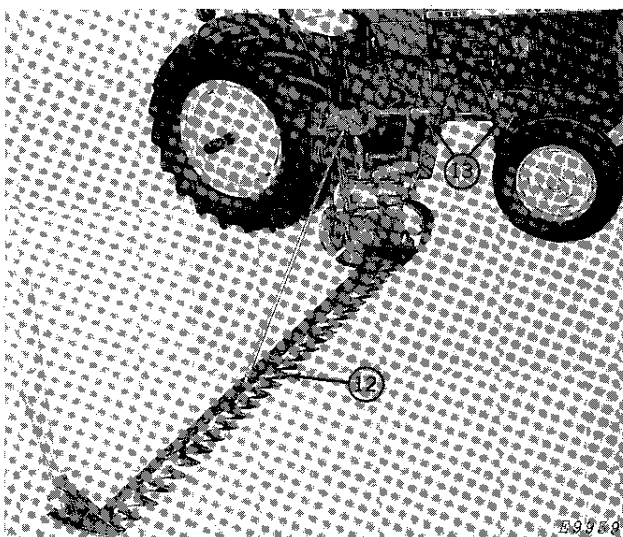
CAUTION: Keep hands and fingers away from front of cutterbar.

8. On mid-PTO drive mower, rock mower to the rear until drive belts connecting tractor PTO to mower are loose. Place a small block of wood underneath front of inner shoe so mower will not rock back.

9. On mid-PTO drive mower remove belts from tractor PTO and push toward mower until they are free of tightener.

10. On mid-PTO drive mower remove block of wood underneath inner shoe.

11. Turn rear crank counterclockwise until latch is fully open.



12. Rock mower away from tractor and allow cutterbar to come to rest on the ground.

13. Turn cranks clockwise as far as they will go and insert locking pins.

Back tractor away from mower.

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