

244 and 343 Quik-Thatch Corn Heads For 45, 55 and 95 Combines



JOHN DEERE

OPERATORS MANUAL

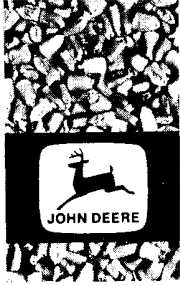
244 and 343 Quik-Thatch Corn Heads
For 45, 55 and 95 Combines

OMN159208 G9 English

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ENGLISH





SPECIFICATIONS

John Deere Combine Model
Required—
45 Serial 35001 and up
55 Serial 69001 and up
95 Serial 20001 and up

NOTE: For 343 Quik-Tatch Corn Head only, 45 Combines below Serial 46001 must be equipped with front axle reinforcements. Two rear guide wheel weights must be used on 45 Combine. It is recommended that the 45 Combine be equipped with a 60- or 74-inch rear axle. All combine drive wheel tire sizes are approved except 13.6 - 26, 6-ply tires.

Number of rows—
244. 2
343. 3

Factory setting of center-to-center distance between snapping units—
244. 38 inches
343. 30 inches

Row Widths Handled—
244. 36, 38, and 40 inches
343. 28, 30, and 32 inches

Gatherer points. Low-profile floating type, hinged above gatherer chains

Center gatherer shields Hinged, quik-removable

Number of gatherer chains per snapping unit. 2

Type of gatherer chain . . . Heavy-duty 555 endless steel roller chain (no master connecting link)

Minimum clearance between gatherer chains and ground. 1-1/4 inches

Distance gatherer chains ahead of stalk rolls. 11 inches

Gatherer chain speed . . . Adjustable for 201, 266, and 324 fpm (feet per minute)

Stalk rolls Spiral pointed, flute type, cast grey iron (2 per row unit)

Length of stalk rolls. 21-7/8 inches

Row unit drive Enclosed gear box with precision gears submerged in lubricant driven by single input hex. shaft

Deck plate adjustment. Bolt adjusted

Gatherer chain adjustment. . . . Spring loaded-self adjusting

Slip clutch. One per row unit plus cross auger drive

Conveyor from gatherers to feeder house. Full width cross auger

Trash knives. Full length one piece heat-treated steel

Trash knife adjustment. Bolt adjusted

Wheel shields. Full length adjustable type

Approximate weight of Quik-Tatch Corn Head—
244 1410 lbs.
343 1830 lbs.

Approximate overall length of Quik-Tatch Corn Head for storage. 10 feet

Approximate overall width of 244 Quik-Tatch Corn Head for storage—
With wheel shields attached. . .8 feet, 4 inches
With wheel shields removed . .6 feet, 6 inches

Approximate overall width of 343 Quik-Tatch Corn Head for storage—
With wheel shields attached. .10 feet, 2 inches
With wheel shields removed. .8 feet, 4 inches

Attachments for combineCorn-cob mix

NOTE: For other attachments available for the combine, see your John Deere dealer.

(Specifications and design subject to change without notice.)



OPERATION

PROPER ASSEMBLY AND INSTALLATION

Proper assembly and installation of feeder house and corn head on combine will insure long life and less service problems for you. Improper assembly and installation can cause inferior work and damage to corn head, feeder house and combine. After assembly and installation, check over entire machine, being sure shields, sprockets, chains, and all other parts are properly attached. Be sure all nuts, pins, and keys are tight and cotter pins are spread.

IN THE FIELD

Pick end rows first and then disk down end rows for a smoother ride and ease of handling. Operate combine in a lower gear until you become familiar with corn head. Pick rows of corn as they were planted so it will not be necessary to pick odd or guess rows.

After picking several rounds, stop corn head and shut off combine engine. Check all bearings for heating. Check to be sure all bolts are tight and chains are adjusted to proper tension.

ADJUST MACHINE PROPERLY

Successful operation, quality of work, and length of life of any machine depends greatly upon proper adjustments to meet specific field conditions.

After making several rounds, check adjustments on corn head, feeder house, and combine to be sure you are getting the best possible sample of corn in grain tank.

HARVESTING EARLY

Agricultural engineers suggest that when corn reaches 26 to 27 percent moisture, farmers with dryers can start harvesting. If you're equipped to store high moisture corn, harvesting can start when corn is at 30 percent moisture.

If corn is to be sold, it is best to wait until moisture content is down slightly below 20 percent. The main item to consider when harvesting corn early to be sold is, cost of drying and quality of corn after it is dried.

Some advantages for early harvesting are, keeping field losses low, eliminating troubles and disagreeable features that accompany frozen ground, cold weather, dried out, frozen, and rotten cornstalks.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

The combine should travel in same direction that field was last cultivated. Drive combine carefully so corn head will stay on rows. In well standing corn, operate corn head so gatherer points are approximately 4 to 6 inches above ground. This will eliminate amount of trash taken into combine and help to eliminate possibility of gatherers picking up stones or other foreign objects that can cause damage to corn head, feeder house or combine.

Listen for slipping clutches or other unusual noises. If unit begins to plug, do not slow down combine engine. Keep engine at operating speed and decrease ground speed with variable speed control or disengage foot clutch until unit has cleared itself.

CORN HEAD HEIGHT CONTROL

(45 Combine Serial 46001 and up, 55 Combine Serial 83001 and up, and 95 Combine Serial 35001 and up)

The combine has an adjustment to control speed of lowering corn head. If corn head is lowering at too slow or fast a rate of speed, refer to your combine operator's manual for adjusting control valve that controls speed of drop.

OPERATE AT PROPER GROUND SPEED

The corn head as well as combine will do its best job if you operate at a moderate ground speed. Never force corn head or combine to the extent of overload. To do so may result in break-downs or trouble. Start out in a lower gear and work up until you find the proper ground speed in which to operate.

In well standing corn, forward movement of machine should be approximately same as rearward movement of gatherer chain flights, so flights gently assist in movement of stalks into stalk rolls.

If ground speed is too fast, gatherer chains push stalks forward and knock ears off stalks. If ground speed is too slow, gatherer chains jerk stalks back into unit, possibly shearing off stalks or knocking off ears of corn.

FIELD LOSSES

During normal harvesting conditions most field losses are created by a careless operator who neglects to adjust his machine periodically.

As the season progresses, field losses will increase due to corn becoming drier and stalks rotting out. Field losses can be reduced to a minimum by keeping corn head and combine in proper adjustment. A few minutes spend each day checking corn head and combine for proper adjustments will repay you great dividends in service and long life as well as eliminating field losses.

ESTIMATING SHELLED CORN LOSS

Count the number of kernels around a hill in a square 40 by 40 inches. Make a count several places in the field and average the count.

If you find an average of 20 kernels per square you are losing one bushel per acre; 80 kernels per square would mean a loss of four bushels per acre.

Before counting kernels per square, shake husks to remove kernels and remove all trash and leaves from the square.

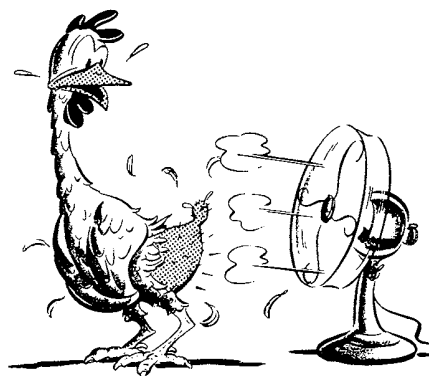
ESTIMATING EAR CORN LOSS

For 40-inch rows, mark off 133 feet (about 43 normal walking steps) along one row. For 30-inch rows, mark off 174 feet (about 58 normal walking steps) along one row. Each good sized ear (about 3/4 pound) represents one bushel of ear corn lost per acre.

Make this test several places throughout the field for a more accurate check. Be sure to kick the husks and stalks to avoid missing ears that are hidden.

To get the most accurate check on efficiency of your corn head, estimate ear corn loss before as well as during and after the field is harvested, because some ears drop off the stalks before harvest.

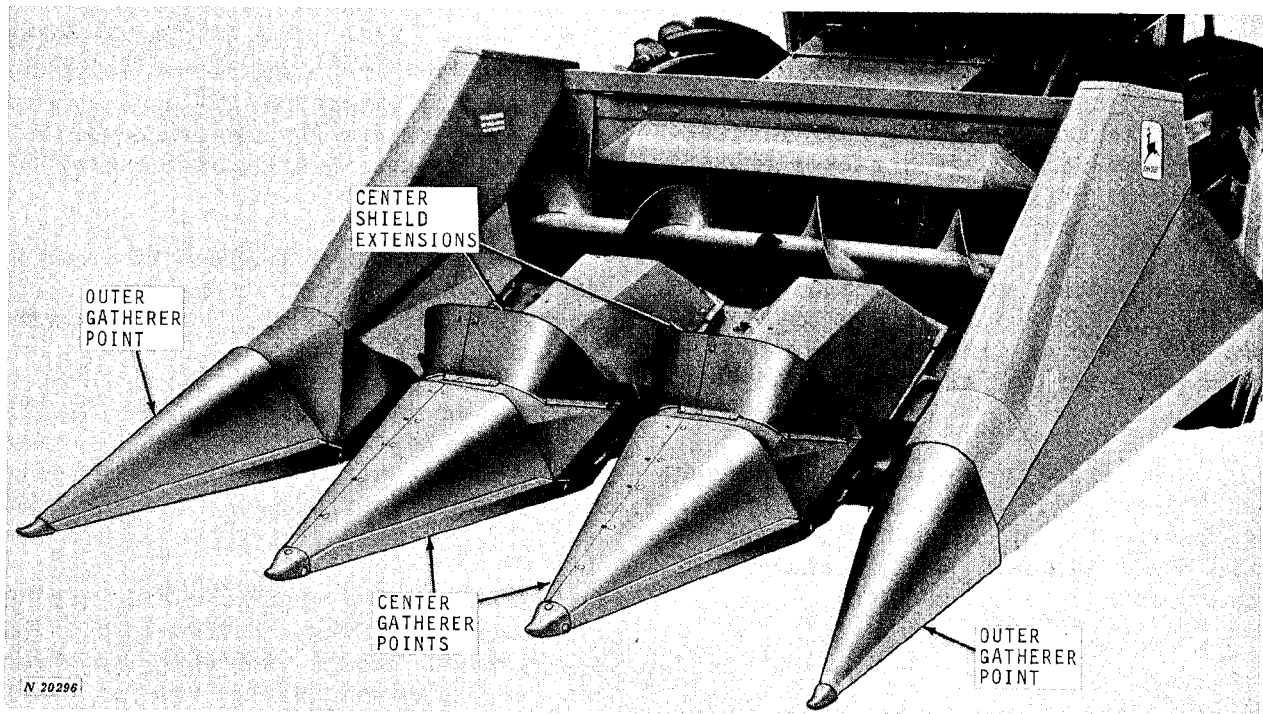
CAUTION: Never clean, lubricate, or adjust corn head, feeder house, or combine while they are in motion. Stop the combine and shut engine off. Keep hands and clothing away from moving parts.



Be Extra Cautious
around Moving Machinery!

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GATHERERS

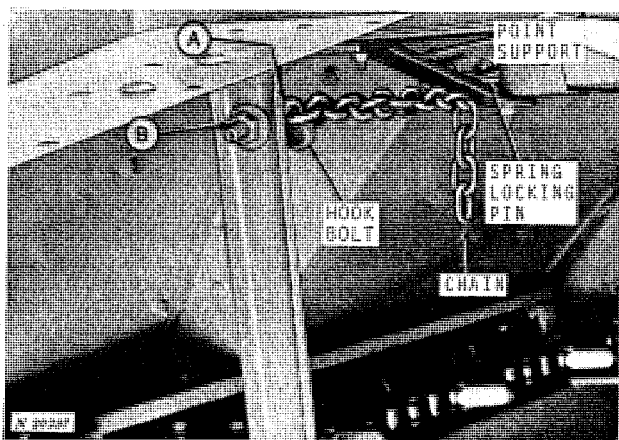


For most conditions operate front of gatherer points just touching the ground.

In muddy conditions or in snow, adjust gatherer points high enough to prevent points from scooping material into throat opening, thereby clogging the opening.

Adjust all gatherer points level with one another.

ADJUSTING GATHERER POINTS



All gatherer points are hinged and will float to follow contour of ground.

Adjustments are provided for adjusting height and for leveling gatherer points.

To adjust gatherer points for desired operating height, insert chain link through point support and secure with spring locking pin.

After all gatherer points are adjusted for desired operating height, start with one of the outer gatherer points and level all other points the same.

To level gatherer points, adjust nut 'A' and 'B' on hook bolt.

CAUTION: Always lower cylinder safety stop on combine before attempting to make any adjustment on corn head when it is in raised position. See page 17.

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