

# John Deere 205 Rotary Cutter



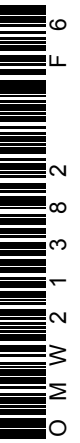
## OPERATORS MANUAL

John Deere 205  
Rotary Cutter

OMW21382 Issue F6 English

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# To the Purchaser

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This new rotary cutter 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. Read the "Table of Contents" to learn where each section is located.

In addition to the equipment furnished with your rotary cutter, attachments are available to increase efficiency under special cutting conditions. These attachments are described in the extra 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 rotary cutter will travel when in use.

Record your rotary cutter serial number in the space provided on page 24. Your dealer needs this information to give you prompt, efficient service when you order parts or attachments. If your rotary cutter requires replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you can obtain Genuine John Deere parts - accept no substitutes.

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



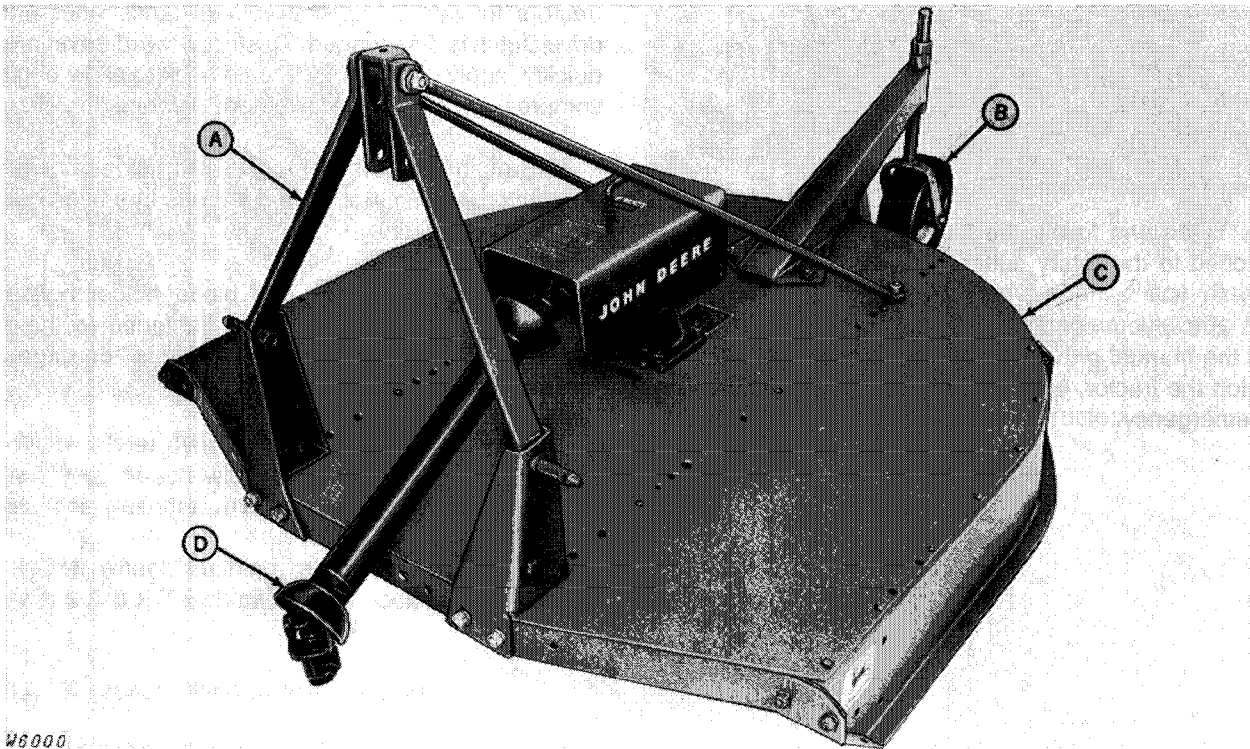
This safety alert symbol identifies important safety messages in this manual. When you see this symbol, be alert to the possibility of personal injury and carefully read the message that follows.

Because John Deere sells its products world-wide, U.S. units of measure are shown with their respective Metric equivalents throughout this operator's manual. These equivalents are the SI (International System) Units of Measure.



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W8000

**A—Mast**  
**B—Tail Wheel**

**C—Frame**  
**D—Powershaft**

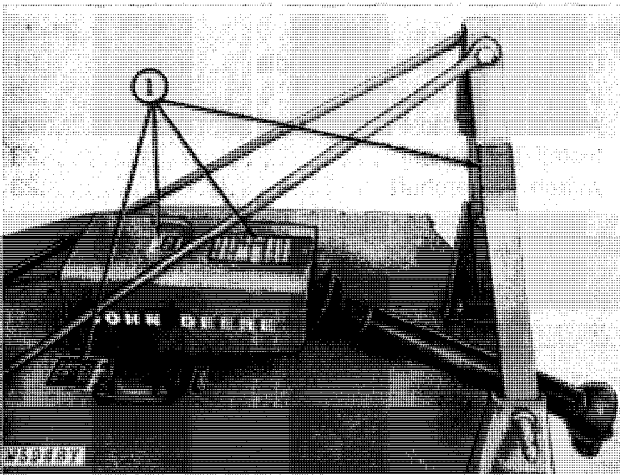


# Safety Rules

**⚠** 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.

All rotary cutters are potentially dangerous machines. This rotary cutter has been designed to minimize the chance of accidents, but there is no substitute for a careful and safe-minded operator. Be certain that everyone who operates the 205 Rotary Cutter understands and obeys the following safety rules.

## BEFORE YOU START



1. Read and follow the instructions on the decals attached to the rotary cutter.

2. Know your controls. Read this operator's manual and the manual provided with your tractor. Learn how to stop the tractor, engine, and rotary cutter quickly in an emergency.

## OPERATION

1. Be sure that all powershaft and gear box shields are securely in place at all times during operation.

2. Only the operator should be allowed on the tractor when operating the rotary cutter.

3. Never operate the rotary cutter except from the tractor seat.

4. Do not, under any circumstances, operate machine when people are in close range. Stones and other debris can be thrown more than a hundred feet by the machine when in operation. Never direct discharge of any material toward others.

5. Make sure blades and hardware are in good condition before operating. A loose or excessively worn part may fracture unexpectedly when striking an obstruction.

6. Slow down when approaching trees, fences, or ditches. Flywheel effect of blade holder will drive some tractors forward a considerable distance after main drive clutch is disengaged. To stop forward travel more quickly, apply brakes and throttle back to allow engine compression to slow rotor before disengaging clutch.

7. Be careful when operating on hillsides because the tractor may tip sideways if it drops in a hole, ditch, or other irregularity.

8. Inspect blade bolts and blade holder bolt frequently to ensure that they are tightened to the required torque specification. See "Blades" on page 16 for required torque.

9. Transport the rotary cutter in the fully raised position.

10. Travel slowly over rough ground.

11. When transporting the rotary cutter on a road or highway at night or during the day, use accessory lights and devices for adequate warning to operators of other vehicles. In this regard, check local governmental regulations. Various safety lights and devices are available from your John Deere dealer.

12. Lower the rotary cutter to the ground when leaving the tractor and cutter unattended.

## **SERVICE AND STORAGE**

1. Do not clean, lubricate or service the cutter unless the machine is blocked up or lowered to the ground, the PTO is disengaged, and the tractor engine is shut off.

2. Due to weight of blade holder, blades may continue to revolve for some time after tractor power takeoff shaft is disengaged. Make sure blade holder has stopped before working on any portion of machine.

3. Always maintain the tractor and rotary cutter properly. Check all fasteners frequently. Lubricate the machine at the time intervals specified under "Lubrication" on page 14. Built-in safety features are effective only if maintained.



# Operation

## GENERAL

The 205 Rotary Cutter is approved for use on all John Deere Tractors through the 4430 Series. It can be used on tractors with horsepower ratings similar to the tractors mentioned if the tractors have a category 1 or category 2, 3-point hitch with standard ASAE-SAE hitch dimensions. The tractor should also have a 540 rpm PTO, but must not be equipped with external powershaft speed changers.

Use the 205 Rotary Cutter for maintaining pastures, destroying weeds, cutting light brush, and shredding crop residues. It is available only as an integral machine.

## PREPARE THE ROTARY CUTTER

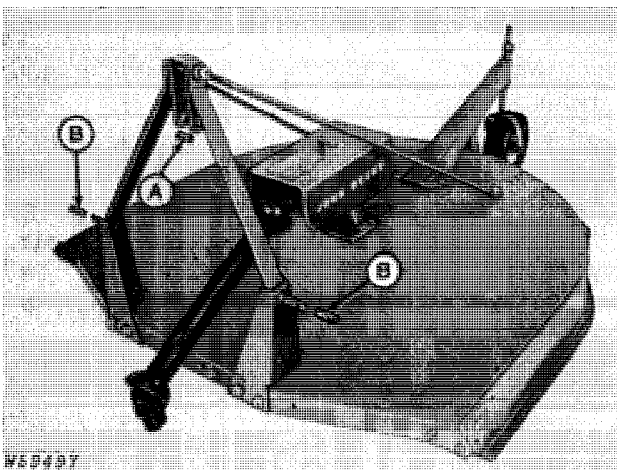
### Obtain Hitch Adapters

See the section below which applies to the type of hitch on your tractor. If hitch adapters are required, they are available from your John Deere dealer.

#### For Category 1

No adapters are required to attach the cutter to a tractor with a category 1, 3-point hitch.

#### For Category 2 with Closed End Center Link

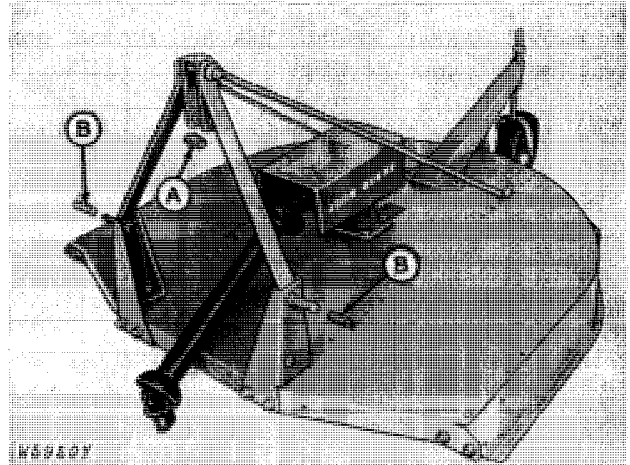


A—Center Link Pin Bushing

B—Hitch Pin Bushing

A T12553 center link pin bushing (A), and two F2684R hitch pin bushings (B), are required to attach the cutter to a tractor with a category 2, 3-point hitch with a closed end center link.

#### For Category 2 with Open End Center Link



A—Hitch Ball

B—Hitch Pin Bushing

An F2681R hitch ball (A), and two F2684R hitch pin bushings (B), are required to attach the cutter to a tractor with a category 2 hitch with an open end center link.

## Lubrication

Be sure the rotary cutter has been properly lubricated. See "Lubrication" on page 14.

## Hardware

Before using the rotary cutter be sure all hardware is tightened to the torque specified in the torque chart on page 15.

## PREPARE THE TRACTOR

### Ballast

An implement code of 39 has been assigned to the 205 Rotary Cutter to help determine tractor front ballast requirements. Note this code and the specified ballast in your tractor operator's manual.

Rear ballast requirements are described in your tractor operator's manual.

### Tire Inflation

Inflate front and rear tires as specified in your tractor operator's manual for light rear-mounted equipment.

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