

# 260 Farm Loader



## OPERATORS MANUAL

260  
Farm Loader

OMW35105 Issue E3 English

**John Deere Welland Works**  
**OMW35105 Issue E3**

LITHO IN U.S.A.  
ENGLISH



# Introduction



**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 of the loader are determined by facing in the direction of tractor forward travel.

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

Record your loader serial number in the space provided in “Specifications” section. Your dealer needs this information to give you prompt efficient service.



This loader is of metric design.

For your convenience, most specifications are given in metric measurement with the customary U.S. measurement following.

Some specifications cannot be converted. These appear in metric only.

Most hardware is metric. Specified metric hardware must be used for replacement.



**CAUTION: Use only metric tools on metric hardware. Other tools may not fit properly. They may slip and cause injury.**



# Predelivery

## TO THE DEALER

Predelivery service is the service John Deere recommends that a dealer perform on a machine before delivering it to a customer. This includes assembly, lubrication, adjustments, and tests. The service assures that the machine will be delivered in good condition to the customer and that the customer will be fully satisfied with its performance right from the start.

The John Deere Delivery Receipt, when properly filled out and signed by the dealer and customer verifies that the predelivery and delivery services were satisfactorily performed. When delivering this machine, give the customer a copy of the delivery receipt and operator's manual. Explain their purpose.

Be certain to retain your copy of the packing list for shipping bundle information.

## Predelivery Check List

After the loader has been completely assembled, inspect it to be sure it is in good running order before delivering it to the customer. The following check list is a reminder of points to inspect. Check off each item as it is found satisfactory or after proper adjustment is made.

- Loader has been assembled with bucket and attachments as per instructions.
- All grease fittings have been lubricated. (See Lubrication section).
- All moving parts are working freely.
- Tires properly inflated. (See Preparing Tractor section).
- Specified rear ballast added to tractor. (See Preparing Tractor section).
- Hydraulic connections do not leak.
- Hydraulic connections are made correctly. (See Assembly section).
- Front wheel tread set as specified. (See Preparing Tractor section).

- Loader control levers operate correctly. (See Controls section).
- Loader mounting frame to tractor hardware is properly torqued. (See Service section).
- Tractor hydraulic oil is full. (See Lubrication section).

## Delivery Check List

At time loader is delivered, the following check list is a reminder of very important information which should be conveyed directly to the customer. Check off each item as it is fully explained to the customer.

- Advise customer that the life expectancy of this, like any other machine, is dependent on regular lubrication as described in the operator's manual.
- Advise customer of the safety precautions that must be exercised while using this loader.
- Give the operator's manual to the customer and explain all operating adjustments and lubrication fully.
- Explain the operation of the loader control levers.
- To the best of my knowledge this machine has been delivered ready for field use and customer has been fully informed as to proper care and operation.

---

(Date Delivered)

---

(Signature of Delivery Person)

### OWNER REGISTER

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Sold \_\_\_\_\_

- Explain that when the loader-tractor are transported on a road or highway at night or during the day, accessory lights and devices should be used for adequate warning to operator's of other vehicles. In this regard, tell customers to check local governmental regulations.
- Advise the customer of the danger of handling round bales when using the round bale grapple. Follow the proper procedures for handling round bales. (See Safety section).
- Advise the customer of optional attachments that are available for special material handling conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

### AFTER-SALE CHECK LIST

It is suggested that the following items be checked sometime during the first six months operation of the loader.

- Check the entire loader for loose or missing hardware.
- Check for broken or damaged parts. Make necessary repairs.
- Check hydraulic lines and connections for leaks. Make necessary repairs.
- Retorque the hardware attaching the loader mounting frame to the tractor. (See Service section).
- If possible, run the loader to see if it is functioning properly.
- Review the entire operator's manual with the customer and stress the importance of proper and regular lubrication and safety precautions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Checked)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

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# Safety

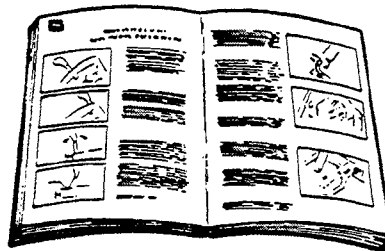
## DO NOT MODIFY LOADER

Unauthorized modification to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.

1DA; W01;7SA A 170383

## READ OPERATOR'S MANUAL

Read this manual carefully, regardless of your previous experience. It will save you time and labor.

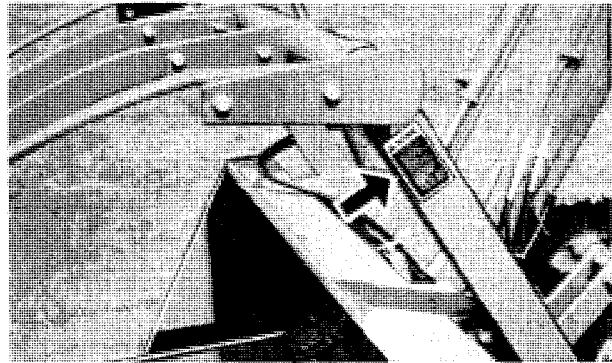
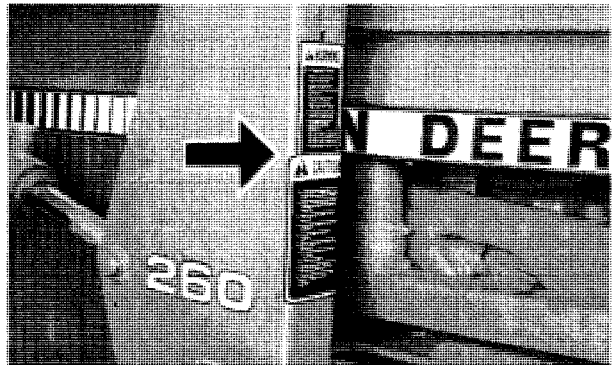


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## READ ALL DECALS

Read all decals on the loader and in this manual.



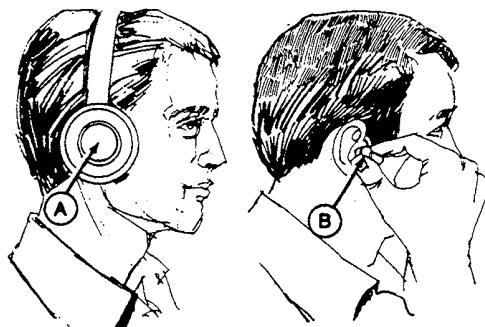
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### PROTECT AGAINST NOISE

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs (A) or earplugs (B) to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noises.



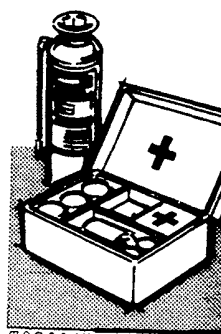
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### PRACTICE SAFE MAINTENANCE

Lower bucket or attachment to ground, shut off tractor engine and relieve pressure in hydraulic system before adjusting, lubricating, or servicing loader.

Check hoses, fasteners and other parts for damage. Make necessary repairs.

Be prepared if an accident or fire should occur. Know where the first aid kit and the fire extinguishers are located - know how to use them.



T27504N

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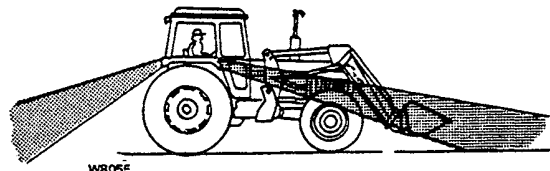
### TRANSPORT SAFELY

Reduce tractor ground speed when transporting a load.

Carry load as low as possible and maintain adequate visibility and ground clearance at all times.

Take extra care when traveling over rough terrain or on a slope.

When driving the tractor-loader 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 government regulations. Various safety lights and devices are available from your John Deere dealer.



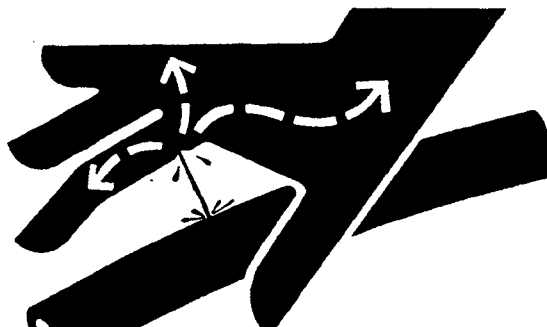
W805E

1DA;W8055 W01;7SA F 170383

## AVOID HIGH-PRESSURE FLUIDS

Escaping fluid under pressure can penetrate the skin causing serious injury. Relieve pressure before disconnecting hydraulic or other lines. Tighten all connections before applying pressure. Keep hands and body away from pinholes and nozzles which eject fluids under high pressure. Use a piece of cardboard or paper to search for leaks. Do not use your hand.

If ANY fluid is injected into the skin, it must be surgically removed within a few hours by a doctor familiar with this type injury or gangrene may result.



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## CHECK BEFORE OPERATING

Become familiar with all controls.

Check hardware.

Check condition of hydraulic hoses and connections.

Remove foreign objects from loader.

Be sure no one is near loader.

Be sure all tractor PTO shields are in place.

1DA; W01;7SA H 170383



## **OPERATE SAFELY**

Improper use of loader can cause serious injury or death.

If your tractor is equipped with a ROLL-GARD®, use the seat belt under almost all operating conditions.

Use of the seat belt is not recommended for tractors without a roll-over protective device.

Use recommended rear wheel ballast.

Keep PTO clutch lever disengaged.

Be sure no one is near tractor or loader.

Operate loader from operator's seat only.

Carry load low at all times.

Turn tractor at slow speed.

Reduce tractor ground speed when traveling over rough terrain.

Avoid traveling over loose fill, rocks and holes.

Do not overload loader.

Avoid working on inclines.

Drive slowly through gates and doors.

Avoid handling loose or shiftable loads.

Never use loader as a battering ram.

Remain at controls until operating cycle is complete.

Beware of low wires when bucket is raised.

Lower bucket or attachment to ground when loader is unattended.

Never stand under a raised loader bucket or attachment.

Be sure to follow all the safety precautions outlined in your tractor operator's manual.

Do not allow riders on tractor or loader.

## Safety

Be certain anyone operating the loader is aware of safe operating practices and potential hazards.

Adjust thread to widest recommended settings to increase tractor stability.

For better stability, use tractor with wide front axle rather than narrow front wheels.

Do not lift or carry anyone on loader or in bucket or attachments.


1DA; W01;7SA P 190483

### HANDLE ROUND BALES SAFELY

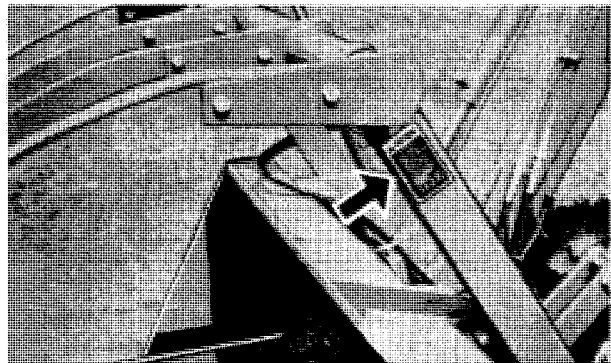
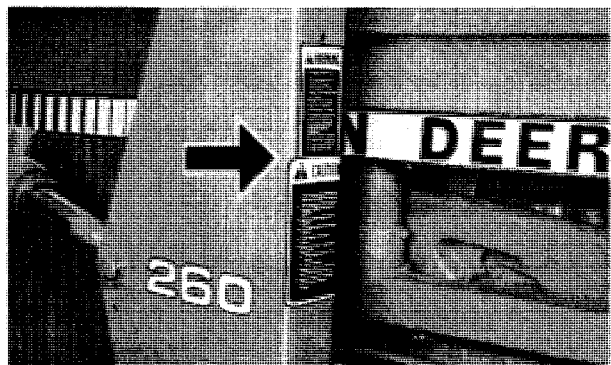
Improper use of front-end loaders to handle round bales can result in injury to the tractor operator from:

the bale rolling back down the loader boom into the operator's station or -

a tractor roll-over accident caused by instability when the bale is not carried low.

 **CAUTION: To prevent bodily injury, exercise extreme caution when using a front-end loader to handle round bales.**

Even when using proper equipment, handling round bales can be hazardous. Follow the instructions shown in this manual and on the decals attached to the loader and round bale grapple.



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## Safety

Do not handle round bales with the loader unless the specially designed John Deere round bale grapple is installed. Without the grapple, the bale can fall on the operator when the loader is raised.

To avoid handling and stability problems, do not exceed a round bale weight of 907 kg (2000 lb).

The tractor must be equipped with a roll-over protective structure to prevent operator injury in case of a tractor roll-over accident.

The tractor must have maximum rear ballast per wheel and maximum tread width. See "Rear Tread" and "Rear Ballast" in "Prepare the Tractor" section.

Reduce tractor ground speed. Carry the bale as low as possible and maintain adequate visibility and ground clearance at all times.

Jerky operation causes tractor-loader instability. Operate the loader controls smoothly.

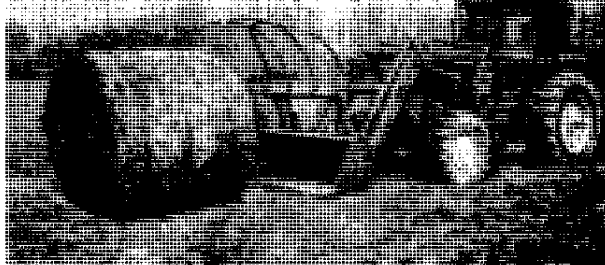


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When handling round bales on a slope, approach the bale with the tractor facing uphill.

Never use the tractor-loader to stop a rolling bale.

Obey all safety messages.



1DA;W8054 W01,75A M 170383

# Prepare the Tractor

## TRACTOR SIZE REQUIREMENTS

The Loader has been designed for use with the following Tractors.

Two-Wheel Drive—2840, 2940, 2950, 3130, 3140, 4030, 4040, 4050, 4230, 4240, 4250, 4430, and 4440

MFWD—2940, 2950, and 3140

HFWD—3130, 4030, 4040, 4230, 4240, 4430, and 4440



**CAUTION:** A roll-over protective structure is recommended for a tractor equipped with a loader.

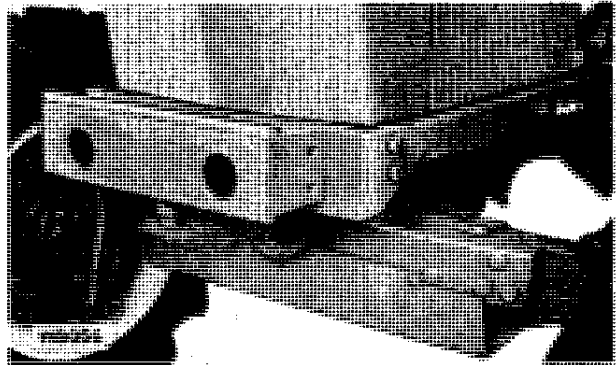
1DA; W01;7PT A 170383

## FRONT BALLAST

**IMPORTANT:** Remove all weights from the front of the tractor when the tractor is equipped with a loader.

The front weight bracket can remain on the tractor.

**NOTE:** Refer to your tractor operator's manual for complete instructions when adding front weights. Subtract two weights from that indicated in tractor operator's manual. This is due to the starter weight bracket being moved forward with loader installed.



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## FRONT TIRES



**CAUTION:** Never operate the tractor with a loose rim, wheel or axle.

The following charts list tires approved for use with the Loader. Approved tires are marked with an "X".

Inflate tractor tires 27.6 kPa (0.3 bar) (4 psi) above inflation pressure recommended for heavy front-mounted equipment as shown in tractor operator's manual.

1DA; W01;7PT E 230383

## APPROVED TIRES FOR TWO WHEEL DRIVE TRACTORS

*NOTE: Tires of similar size having equal to or greater ply ratings may also be used.*

Tires		Tractors				
		2840	2940	2950	3130	3140
10.00-16	6 PR	X	X	X	X	X
11.00-16	6 PR					X
10.50-18	6 PR				X	
7.50-20	8 PR				X	X

Tires		Tractors							
		4030	4040	4050	4230	4240	4250	4430	4440
11.00-12	12 PR	X			X				
11L-15	6 PR	X			X				
10.00-16	6 PR		X	X	X	X	X	X	
11.00-16	6 PR		X		X	X		X	X
11.00-16	8 PR			X			X		
14L-16	6 PR				X			X	
14L-16.1	10 PR						X		
7.50-16	10 PR	X			X				

1DA; W01;7PT F 190483

W06;P11 220383

Prepare the Tractor

**APPROVED TIRES FOR HFWD AND MFWD TRACTORS**

*NOTE: Tires of similar size having equal to or greater ply rating may also be used.*

Tires	Tractors							
	2940	2950	3140	4040	4230	4240	4430	4440
11.2-24 6 PR					X		X	
12.4-24 6 PR				X	X	X	X	X
13.6-24 6 PR	X	X	X	X		X		X
12.4-28 6 PR	X	X	X					
13.6-28 6 PR		X	X					

1DA; W01;7PT G 170383

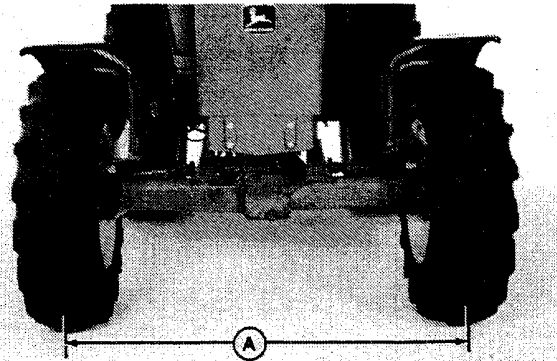
**ADJUST FRONT TREAD**

**CAUTION:** To avoid tractor roll-over, do not use loader on tractors with Roll-O-Matic front end, double front wheel or single front wheel.

Adjust tractor front axle tread as indicated.

Refer to tractor operator's manual for complete instructions.

*NOTE: A front tread greater than that indicated may be used to eliminate loader and front tire interference when turning.*



1DA;W9453 W01;7PT H 170383

**TRACTORS WITH 2-WHEEL DRIVE**

**For 2840, 2940, 2950, 3130 and 3140 Tractors:**

Wheel Disk Inward—203 mm (8-in.) greater than minimum.  
 Wheel Disk Outward—102 mm (4-in.) greater than minimum

**For 4030, 4040, 4050, 4230, 4240, 4250, 4430 and 4440 Tractors:**

Narrow Axle—203 mm (8-in.) greater than minimum.  
 Regular Axle—102 mm (4-in.) greater than minimum.  
 Wide Axle—minimum.

1DA; W01;7PT S 170383

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