

**1517, 1518  
and  
2018  
Flex-Wing  
Rotary Cutters**

**John Deere Welland Works  
OMW43402 Issue K4**

LITHO IN U.S.A.  
ENGLISH

# Introduction

READ THIS MANUAL carefully to learn how to operate and service your machine correctly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

THIS MANUAL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED a permanent part of your machine and should remain with the machine when you sell it.



THIS MACHINE is of metric design. Measurements in this manual are metric with the customary U.S. measurement following. Use only metric hardware and tools as specified.

RIGHT-HAND AND LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction the implement will travel when going forward.

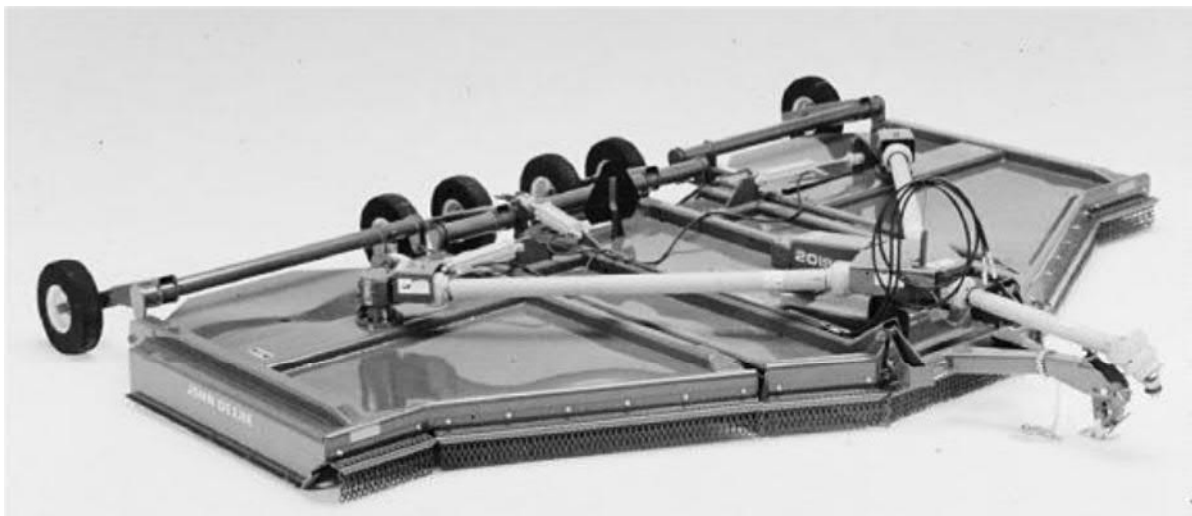
WRITE PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS in the space provided in the Specifications section. Accurately record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine should it be stolen. Your dealer also needs these numbers when you order parts. If this

manual is kept on the machine, also file the identification numbers in a secure place off the machine.

WARRANTY is provided as part of John Deere's support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. The warranty is explained on the warranty certificate which you should have received from your dealer.

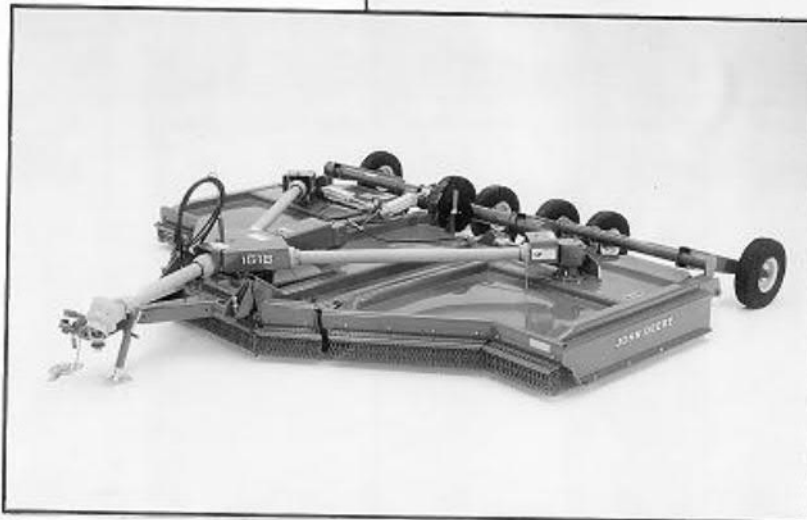
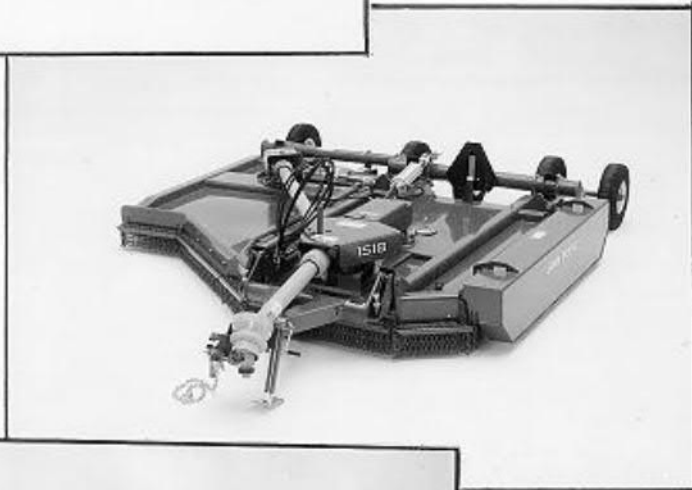
This warranty provides you the assurance that John Deere will back its products where defects appear within the warranty period. In some circumstances, John Deere also provides field improvements, often without charge to the customer, even if the product is out of warranty. Should the equipment be abused, or modified to change its performance beyond the original factory specifications, the warranty will become void and field improvements may be denied. Setting fuel delivery above specifications or otherwise overpowering machines will result in such action.

THE TIRE MANUFACTURER'S warranty supplied with your machine may not apply outside the U.S.



W01306  
-UN-12NOV93

Introduction



**EXTENDED GEARCASE  
WARRANTY 1518**

Gearcase warranty is extended beyond the first year to three years.

If the gearcase(s) become inoperative due to a defect in workmanship or materials, John Deere will provide new parts and labour free of charge. This extended warranty applies to the original owner only and shall be void if the gearcase(s) are not maintained in accordance with the instructions in the Operator's Manual.

**EXTENDED GEARCASE  
WARRANTY 2018**

Gearcase warranty is extended beyond the first year to three years.

If the gearcase(s) become inoperative due to a defect in workmanship or materials, John Deere will provide new parts and labour free of charge. This extended warranty applies to the original owner only and shall be void if the gearcase(s) are not maintained in accordance with the instructions in the Operator's Manual.

W01571 -19-21JUN94

W01572 -19-21JUN94

# Checklists

## PREDELIVERY

Check off each item as it is found satisfactory or after proper adjustment is made.

- All safety shields or guards are in place.
- All decals are in place and readable.
- Inflate tires to 165—190 kPa (24—28 psi).
- Tighten wheel bolts to 120 N·m (90 lb-ft).
- Check gear case seals for leakage.
- Check and tighten all hardware. (See Checking Bolt Torque in Service section.)
- Check and tighten blade holder and blade bolts (See Tightening Blade Holder and Blade Bolts in Lubrication and Maintenance section.)
- Lubricate. (See Lubrication and Maintenance section.)
- Cycle hydraulic cylinders two or three times.

Check for leaks.

- Raise and lower wings. Check for any interference or malfunction.
- Check machine for damage. Touch up any scratches.
- Fill gear cases with oil and check gear case oil level. (See Lubrication and Maintenance section.)



**CAUTION: To help prevent personal injury from rotating blades or thrown objects. Never walk or stand behind the cutter during operation or run-in.**

- Operate cutter for about one minute and check for excessive vibration or unusual gear case noise.
- This cutter has been tested and to the best of my knowledge, is ready for delivery to the customer.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WX,1518PD,A -19-02DEC91

## OWNER REGISTER

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Code \_\_\_\_\_

WX,1508PD,D -19-15MAY89

## Checklists

### DELIVERY CHECKLIST

Review the operator's manual with the customer explaining the following:

- Tell the customer not to remove any safety shields or guards.
- John Deere warranty.
- Safe operation and service.
- Correct machine operation.
- Correct lubricants.
- Daily and periodic lubrication and maintenance.

- Daily and periodic inspections.
- John Deere parts and service.

Prior to final delivery to the customer do the following:

- Record serial number in the Specifications section.
- Sign and remove this page for dealer's record.
- Give the customer the operator's manual. Encourage the customer to read the manual.

Date Delivered: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

WX,1508PD,B -19-15MAY89

### AFTER-SALE CHECKLIST

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

- Review the entire operator's manual with the customer and stress the importance of proper and regular lubrication. Also, review safety precautions and check that all safety shields are in place.
- Check the entire machine for loose or missing hardware.
- Check for broken or damaged parts. Make necessary repairs.

- Check for hydraulic oil leaks. Make necessary repairs.

- Acquaint the customer with any special attachments that will help do a better job.

- Check with the customer as to the performance of the machine.

- If possible, run the machine to see if it is functioning properly.

Date Visited: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

WX,1508PD,C -19-15MAY89

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*All information, illustrations and specifications in this manual are based on the latest information available at the time of publication. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.*

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A John Deere ILLUSTRATION™ Manual

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# Safety

## RECOGNIZE SAFETY INFORMATION

This is the safety-alert symbol. When you see this symbol on your machine or in this manual, be alert to the potential for personal injury.

Follow recommended precautions and safe operating practices.



DX,ALERT -19-03MAR93

T81389 -UN-07DEC68

## UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS

A signal word—DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION—is used with the safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards.

DANGER or WARNING safety signs are located near specific hazards. General precautions are listed on CAUTION safety signs. CAUTION also calls attention to safety messages in this manual.



DX,SIGNAL -19-03MAR93

TS187 -19-30SEP88

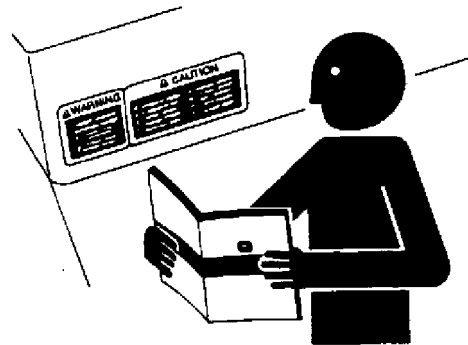
## FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Carefully read all safety messages in this manual and on your machine safety signs. Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace missing or damaged safety signs. Be sure new equipment components and repair parts include the current safety signs. Replacement safety signs are available from your John Deere dealer.

Learn how to operate the machine and how to use controls properly. Do not let anyone operate without instruction.

Keep your machine in proper working condition. Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.

If you do not understand any part of this manual and need assistance, contact your John Deere dealer.



DX,READ -19-03MAR93

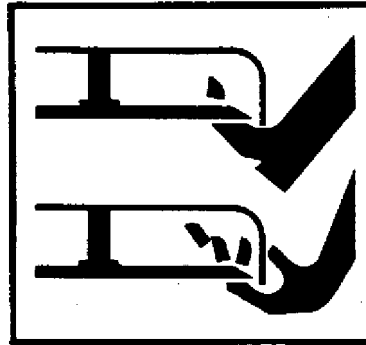
TS201 -UN-23AUG88



## STAY CLEAR OF ROTATING BLADES

Rotating blades can cut or dismember, causing personal injury or death. Keep hands and feet from under cutter deck.

Lower wings, disconnect PTO driveline and hydraulic hoses from tractor before performing adjustments or service work.



-UN-07OCT88

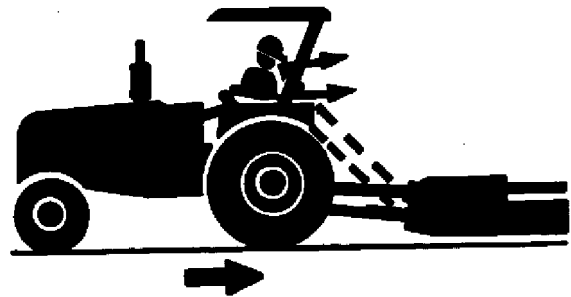
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WX,3SY,L -19-30MAY89

## USE FRONT AND REAR SAFETY SHIELDS

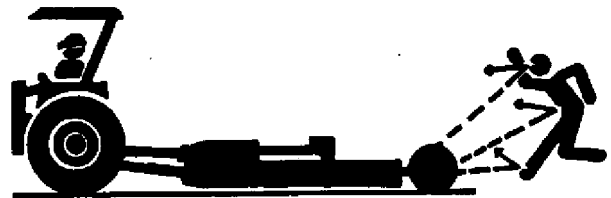
Use both front and rear safety shields to reduce the possibility of objects being thrown by the blades.

Adjustable rear shields should be kept in lowest possible position.



-UN-06NOV91

W00067



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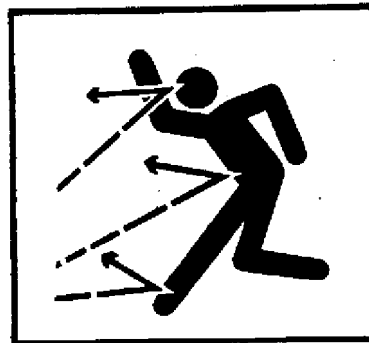
WX,1518SY,A -19-02DEC91

## PROTECT BYSTANDERS

Never operate the cutter near people. Do not stand near the cutter while blades are in motion. Debris can be thrown hundreds of feet.

DO NOT allow children to operate tractor or cutter.

Operate the cutter from tractor seat only.



-UN-07OCT88

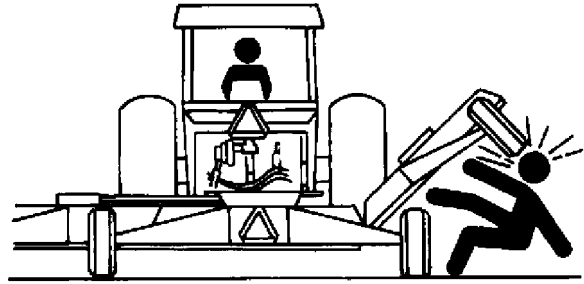
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WX,3SY,F -19-12JAN88



## RAISE WINGS SAFELY

Do not allow bystanders in area of machine whenever transport locks are removed.



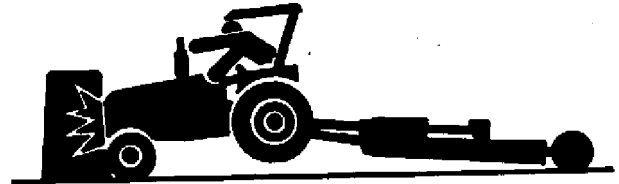
WX,1518SY,B -19-02DEC91

W14564 -UN-20MAR89

## OPERATE TRACTOR AND CUTTER SAFELY

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 operator.

Flywheel effect of blade holder will drive tractors with transmission driven PTO's forward, even when tractor clutch is disengaged. Travel slowly near ditches, trees, or large objects. To stop, slow engine speed and apply brakes before disengaging clutch.



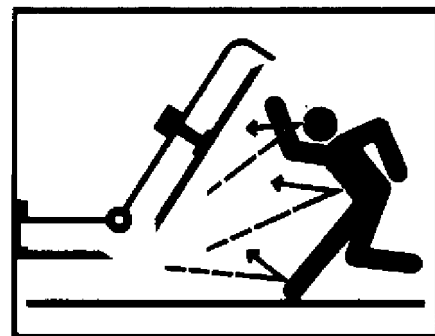
WX,1518SY,C1 -19-24JAN92

W00069 -UN-06NOV91

## OPERATE WINGS SAFELY WHEN CUTTING

DO NOT operate wing section(s) when in the raised position.

Rotating blades or objects thrown by blades may injure people or livestock.



WX,1518SY,C2 -19-24JAN92

W00126 -UN-15NOV91

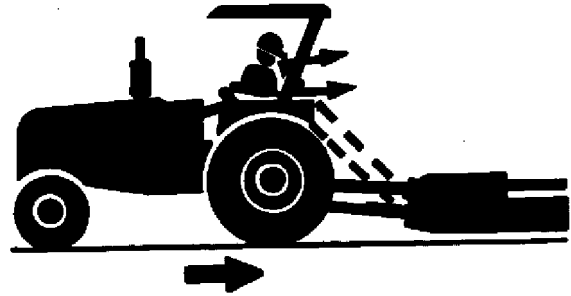


## BACK UP SAFELY

First look carefully behind the cutter.

Do not operate the cutter in reverse.

With the PTO engaged, material can be discharged from the front of the cutter. This increases risk of injury to the operator from thrown objects.



WX,1518SY,D1 -19-03FEB92

W00067 -UN-06NOV91

## KEEP RIDERS OFF MACHINE

KEEP RIDERS OFF.

Riders on machine are subject to injury such as being struck by foreign objects and being thrown off of the machine. Riders also obstruct the operator's view resulting in the machine being operated in an unsafe manner.



WX,1518SY,E -19-02DEC91

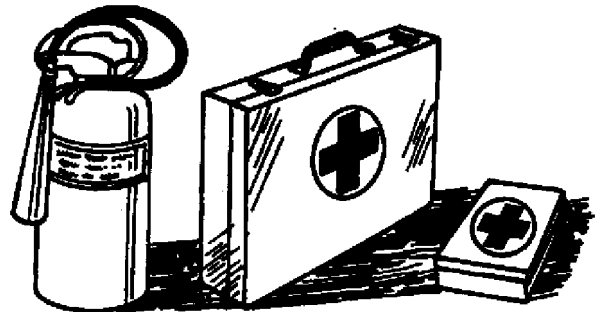
W00005 -UN-06NOV91

## PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

Be prepared if a fire starts.

Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguisher handy.

Keep emergency numbers for doctors, ambulance service, hospital, and fire department near your telephone.



DX,FIRE2 -19-03MAR93

TS291 -UN-23AUG88

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