

**403, 503
and 603
Rotary Cutters**

**John Deere Welland Works
OMW38904 Issue J1
(This manual replaces OMW38904 E9)**

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.

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

WARRANTY is on the warranty certificate which you should have received from your dealer.

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



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.

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.



W11292
-UN-05OCT88

WX,38904,IFC2 -19-19DEC91

Checklists

PREDELIVERY

The following checklist is a reminder of points to inspect. Check off each item as it is found satisfactory or after proper adjustment is made.

- Check that all safety shields or guards are in place.
- Check that all decals are fastened and legible.
- Check gear case seals for leakage.
- Check gear case oil level. (See Lubrication and Maintenance section.)



CAUTION: 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.
- Check that all grease fittings have been lubricated. (See Lubrication and Maintenance section.)
- Check and tighten all hardware. (See Checking Bolt Torque in Service section.)
- Check machine for damage. Touch up any scratches.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

WX,403,PD,1 -19-26MAR91

DELIVERY

Review the operator's manual with the customer. Explain the following:

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

- Correct lubricants.
- Daily and periodic inspections.
- John Deere parts and service.
- Record serial number in the Specifications section.
- Give the customer the operator's manual. Encourage the customer to read the manual.

Date Delivered: _____

Signature: _____

W11,5PD,B -19-16MAY89

Checklists

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 and safety precautions.
- Check the entire machine for loose or missing hardware.
- Check for broken or damaged parts. 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,717PD,B -19-16APR90

OWNER REGISTER

NAME _____

Model _____

Address _____

Serial Number _____

City _____

Date Sold _____

State/Prov _____

Mail Code _____

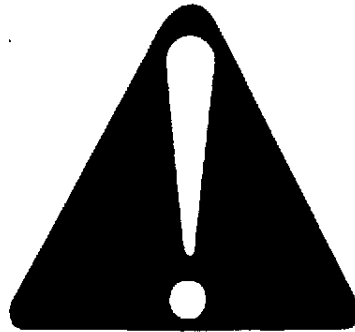
W01,12PD,C -19-18MAY89

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 -19-04JUN90

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 -19-04JUN90

TS187 -19-30SEP88

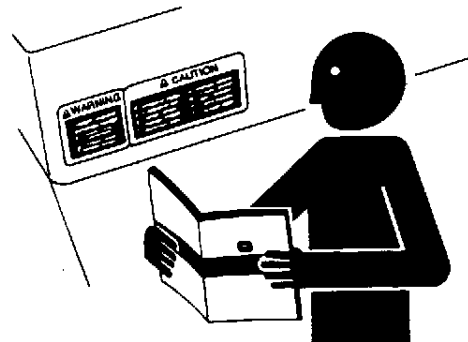
FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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 -19-04JUN90

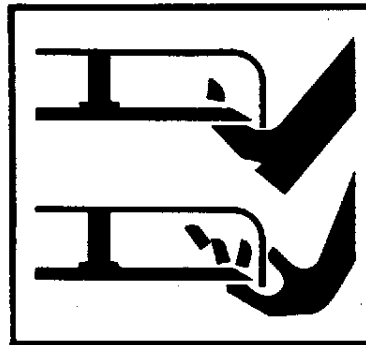
TS201 -UN-23AUG88



STAY CLEAR OF ROTATING BLADES

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

Disconnect PTO driveline before performing adjustments or service work.



-UN-07OCT88

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W11,5SY,AB -19-12MAY89

STAY CLEAR OF ROTATING DRIVELINES

Entanglement in rotating driveline can cause serious injury or death.

Keep tractor master shield and driveline shields in place at all times. Make sure rotating shields turn freely.

Wear close fitting clothing. Stop the engine and be sure PTO driveline is stopped before making adjustments, connections, or cleaning out PTO driven equipment.



-UN-23AUG88

TS198

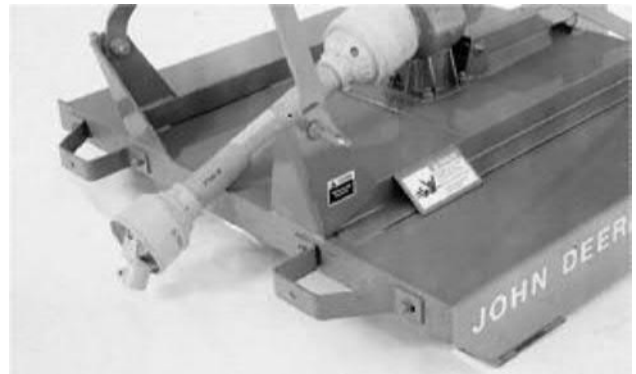
DX,PTO -19-04JUN90

INSPECT CUTTER REGULARLY

Check for loose hardware, especially blade and blade holder hardware.

Inspect driveline shield for free rotation.

Keep foot guards in place if front safety shield is not used.



-UN-05OCT88

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W11,5SY,C -19-22MAY87

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

W14335

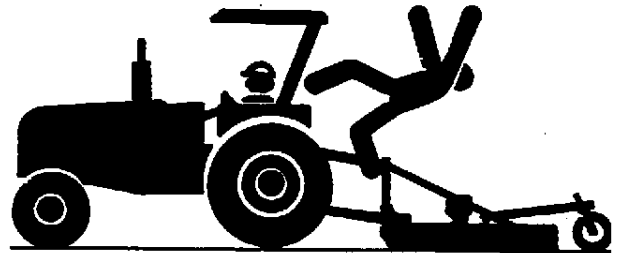
W11,5SY,D -19-12MAY89



KEEP RIDERS OFF MACHINE

Only allow the operator on the 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.



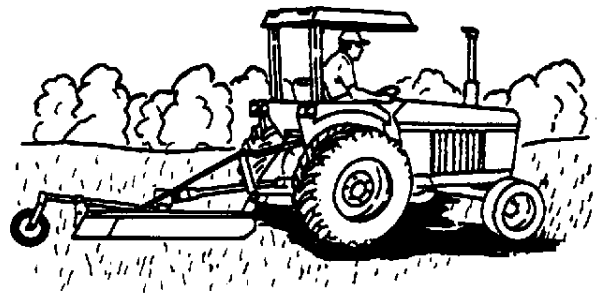
W14591 -UN-05OCT88

W11,1SY.C -19-12MAY89

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.



W11230 -UN-05OCT88

W11,5SY.E -19-22MAY87

CHECK GROUND CONDITIONS

Clear the cutting area of objects that might be picked up and thrown.

Consider the type of area you plan to cut. Set up a safe cutting pattern. Do not cut under conditions in which traction or stability is doubtful: first test drive the area with PTO off and cutter in the down position.

Travel slowly over rough ground.



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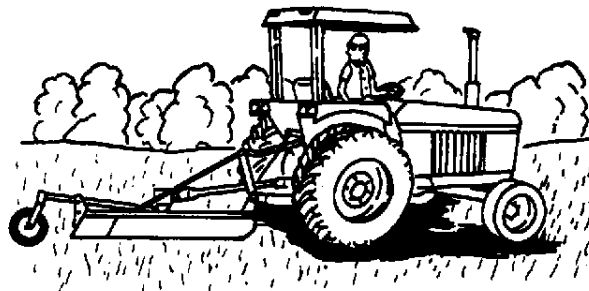
W11,5SY.F -19-22MAY87



BACK UP SAFELY

Do not operate the cutter in reverse unless necessary. First, look carefully behind the cutter.

Be very careful when you back the tractor 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.

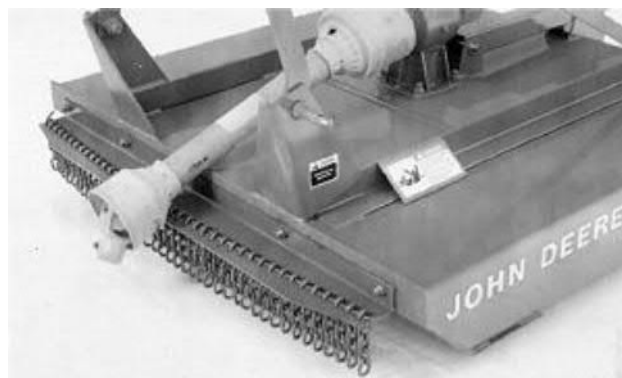


W11,5SY,G -19-22MAY87

W11231 -JUN-05OCT88

USE FRONT SAFETY SHIELD

Use front safety shield to reduce the possibility of objects being thrown by the blades.



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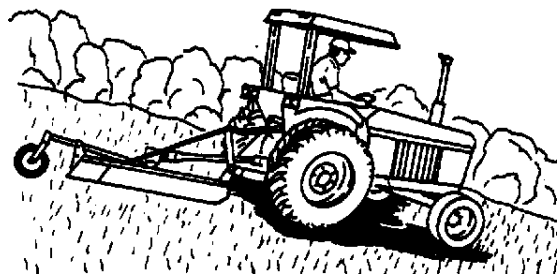
W11371 -JUN-05OCT88

CUT SAFELY ON SLOPES

Operate up and down, not across, steep slopes. Avoid sudden starts and stops.

Back tractor up a steep slope with PTO off. Cut only as you travel down the slope.

Slow down before you change directions on a slope.



W11,5SY,I -19-22MAY87

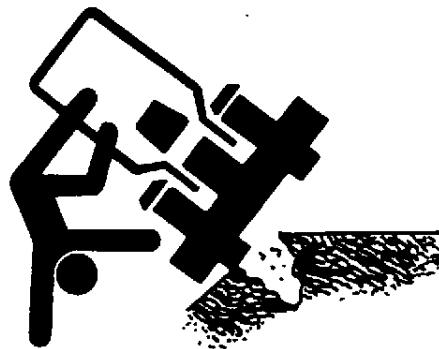
W11232 -JUN-05OCT88

AVOID TIPPING WHILE CUTTING

Watch for holes, rocks, roots, or other hidden hazards. Keep away from drop-offs.

Do not cut near the edge of a gully or bank.

Before you make a sharp turn, slow down, especially on a slope.



W11,5SY,J -19-12MAY89

W14148 -JUN-05OCT88

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