

555 TRACTOR OPERATOR'S MANUAL 1983

Serial Numbers 55583133475 to 55583133579

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Reprint

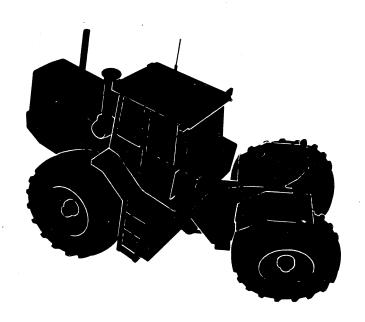


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Table of Contents

~	Serial Numbers 55583133475 to 55583133579
1	Safety
2	Operation
3	Lubrication and Maintenance 25
4	Troubleshooting53
5	Storage 56
6	Specifications and Schematics



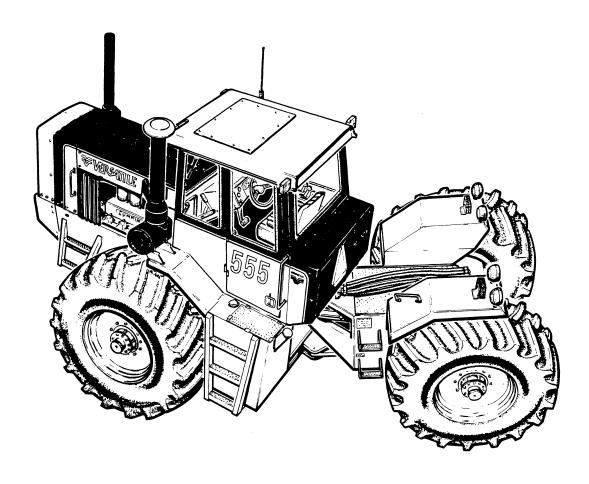
Introduction

We at Versatile Farm Equipment Company are pleased you have chosen a VERSATILE® 555 Four-Wheel Drive Tractor for your farming operation. It has evolved through the ideas and suggestions submitted to us by customers such as yourself.

We ask that you study this manual and adopt the preventive maintenance program outlined in it. Preventive maintenance will provide you with trouble-free service for years to come. The suggested schedule has been designed to meet most operating conditions. It may be necessary to adjust your maintenance program to suit your specific circumstances.

You have also received a Cummins' Operation and Maintenance Manual. We would ask that for engine maintenance not covered by this manual, you follow the instructions given in the Cummins' Manual. Before placing the tractor in service, become familiar with all the procedures described in both manuals.

Your Versatile dealer is factory-trained to provide genuine parts and professional repair service. Consult him for all your service needs.



Serial Number Location

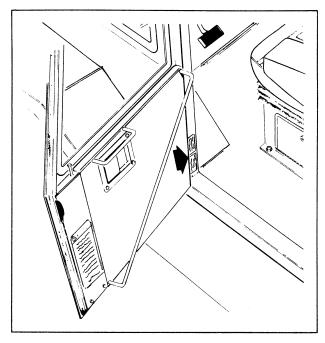
IMPORTANT

To obtain the fastest service when ordering parts, always remember to:

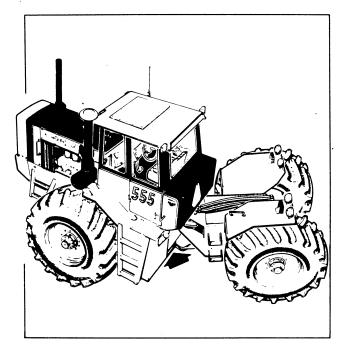
- 1. Order the part by the correct number
- 2. State machine model and year
- 3. Include the serial number of tractor and engine

TRACTOR

Serial number is stamped on the rear front frame and also appears as a metal tag near the parkbrake lever in the cab.



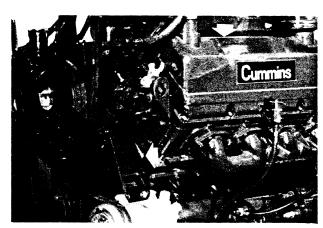
Cab Plate



Frame Stamp

ENGINE

Serial number is on a metal tag on the engine's left-hand cylinder bank.



Engine Plate



Watch for this symbol. It identifies potential hazards to health or personal safety. It points out safety precautions. It means: ATTENTION \circ Be Alert. Your safety is involved.









1 Safety

National Safety Council statistics tell us that many people die or suffer serious injury needlessly each year as a result of farm accidents.

Don't become a statistic or a victim. Carefully review the procedures given in this manual with all operators ANNUALLY.



Operating instructions must be given to everyone using the Model 555 Tractor before operation and at least once yearly thereafter in compliance with OSHA Regulation 1928.57.

GENERAL SAFETY

- Do not let any unauthorized driver operate the tractor.
- 2. Keep a fire extinguisher in the cab. Maintain it and be familiar with its use.



3. Provide a first aid kit for use in case of accident.



- 4. Never allow passengers on the machine, either inside or outside the cab.
- 5. Fasten seatbelt before starting engine.



- 6. Never operate machine in a closed building.
- 7. Always keep sleeves, jackets or other clothing relatively tight and belted, since loose clothes might catch in moving parts.
- 8. Do not jump from tractor. There is a danger of catching clothing on protruding parts.
- 9. Use steps and handhold when mounting and dismounting tractor.

OPERATING SAFETY

- Always operate tractor from the operator's seat
- 2. Ensure seat is locked in position before operating tractor.
- 3. Always start tractor with range selector and transmission in neutral and PTO clutch disengaged. This is particularly important during cold weather operation.



- Always wait until clutch oil pressure warning light and buzzer go out before putting tractor in gear.
- Do not oil, grease or adjust tractor while it is moving. Do not leave engine running while tractor or drawn equipment is being adjusted, repaired or cleaned.
- 6. Ensure parkbrake is set when tractor is stopped. Tractor can freewheel even when in gear.
- 7. Avoid abrupt or sudden turns, starts or stops. Operate tractor smoothly.
- 8. Keep all safety shields in place when operating machines.

- Do not operate tractor when you are tired. Take a rest.
- 10. Never operate tractor at high speeds. This practice may result in damage to machine and injury to operator.

SAFE OPERATION IN ROUGH TERRAIN

 Drive tractor slowly on hillsides and curves so there is no danger of tipping. Avoid slopes which are too steep for safe operation.



- 2. Always drive slowly over rough ground at speeds slow enough to ensure your safety.
- Avoid sharp turns when operating on hillsides.
- 4. When driving out of a ditch, gully or up a steep hillside, engage the clutch slowly.
- 5. When descending steep grades, select a sufficiently low gear to maintain control with minimum braking.
- 6. Never drive near the edge of a ditch or gully unless absolutely necessary.
- 7. Be especially alert when operating machine at row ends, road slopes and around obstructions.

MAINTENANCE SAFETY

 Escaping hydraulic oil under pressure can penetrate the skin causing personal injury. Ensure all connections are tight and lines and hoses are undamaged. Before



disconnecting hydraulic lines, relieve all hydraulic pressure. Do not overfill tank.

 Wear gloves and eye protectors and use a piece of cardboard or wood as a backstop for spurting fluid when searching for hydraulic leaks.

- 3. Add coolant to radiator only when engine is stopped. Turn radiator cap to its stop to relieve pressure before removing cap.
- 4. Never refuel tractor when the engine is hot or running. Do not smoke while filling fuel tank or servicing fuel system. Vaporized diesel fuel is as dangerous and volatile as gasoline. Do not overfill.



- 5. Do not smoke and avoid open flames when filling batteries.
- 6. Ether starting fluid is highly flammable. Do not use near fire, sparks, open flames or while engine is running.
- Remove mud, crop residue, chains and tools from steps and operator's platform. They may interfere with pedal operation or entry/exit from tractor.

IMPLEMENT SAFETY

- 1. Always hitch loads to drawbar or hitch points.
- 2. When hitching drawn equipment to drawbar, back tractor past clevis then move forward so that, in making the connection, tractor is moving away from equipment.
- 3. Always lower implements to the ground when not in use. Hydraulic pressure can rupture hoses, releasing high pressure oil.
- 4. Be careful when turning with a towed implement. Lift it from the ground during turns. Side thrust could damage tires.

PTO SAFETY

- 1. Never start tractor with PTO engaged.
- 2. Ensure articulation lock is engaged, parkbrake is set and gearshift lever is in neutral when using PTO in stationary applications.



- 3. Never leave tractor unattended. If you must leave the area for any reason, stop and lock out tractor.
- Take special care in hook-up of implement to PTO
- 5. Ensure all guards are in place while operating PTO.
- 6. Stop and lockout tractor before disconnecting or servicing PTO drivelines.

SAFE HIGHWAY OPERATION

- 1. Use extreme caution when pulling heavy loads at road speeds. Avoid hard application of tractor brakes at high speeds.
- 2. Use the hazard warning flashers when transporting or driving the tractor on public roads unless prohibited by law in your area. Check with local authorities.
- Equip towed implements with slow moving vehicle (SMV) signs when travelling on public roads.



4. Ensure headlights are adjusted so they will not blind the operators of oncoming vehicles.

CHEMICAL SAFETY

- Cab air filters are not designed to filter harmful chemicals. When using agricultural chemicals, follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- Do not carry harmful chemicals in the cab. Chemicals may rupture the container and the fumes may poison the operator.



SAFETY DECALS

1. Keep decals clean. Remove dirt with a wet cloth when necessary.

- 2. Replace safety decals if destroyed, missing, painted over or unreadable.
- If a section of the tractor is replaced that carries a safety decal, apply a new decal immediately.
- New safety decals are available from your Versatile dealer.

ARTICULATION LOCK

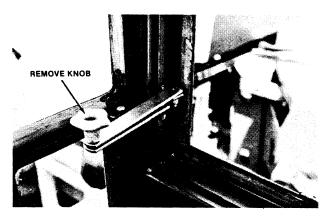
- 1. Use articulation lock in stationary applications, servicing, jacking or overhaul operations. Do not use when tractor is moving.
- 2. Before engaging the lock, park tractor on a level surface with steering straight. Engage parkbrake. Select neutral on floorshift lever and stop engine. Remove lock from storage position and insert into holes to the left of the articulation joint. It may be necessary to start the engine and articulate the frame slightly to engage lockpin.

ALTERNATE EXIT

The cab has two exits which may be used in an emergency; the door, and the window on the right-hand front corner of cab. The window is opened by unscrewing the knob holding the two arms together. Separate arms and push window open.

ENGINE HOOD

Use the brace rod to hold engine compartment hood open for servicing.



Alternate Exit

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