

NO. 8 AND NO. 8W CASTER-WHEEL MOWERS



JOHN DEERE

OPERATORS MANUAL NO. 8 AND NO. 8W CASTER-WHEEL MOWERS

OMH91129 K3 English

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LITHO IN THE U.S.A.
ENGLISH



TO THE PURCHASER

The mower you have just purchased was designed and manufactured to the traditional high quality standards of all John Deere Farm Equipment. We are confident that you will receive years of dependable, economical service from your John Deere Mower.

The mower is one of the pioneer implements of the farm—as simple as a pair of shears—as efficient as a safety razor. However, like any other piece of machinery, your mower will require a certain amount of care and adjustment. Proper and thorough lubrication is vital to good performance and the long life of any machine.

This manual has been carefully prepared and illustrated to provide you with the necessary information to hook up, adjust, service, lubricate, and operate your new John Deere Mower to best advantage.

Read and study this manual carefully. Keep it in a handy place and refer to it often.

If you should find that you require information not covered in this manual, consult your John Deere dealer. He will be glad to answer any question that may arise regarding the operation and service of the mower. He has trained mechanics who are kept informed on the best methods of John Deere mower servicing and can give you prompt know-how service in the field or in his shop.

Should your mower require replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you will receive **Genuine John Deere Parts—accept no substitutes**. John Deere parts fit properly and insure satisfactory service because they are made from the original patterns and from the same material as used in new machines.

LOCATION REFERENCE

“Right-hand” and “left-hand” sides are determined by facing in the direction the mower will travel when in use.

“Clockwise” refers to parts turning to the right like the hands of a clock. “Counterclockwise” refers to parts turning to the left.

SERIAL NUMBER

When ordering parts, refer to the model and serial number. By doing so, you will assist your John Deere dealer in giving you prompt, efficient service.

Record the serial number and date purchased in the space provided below.

The serial number is stamped on a plate located on the top of the chain drive housing.

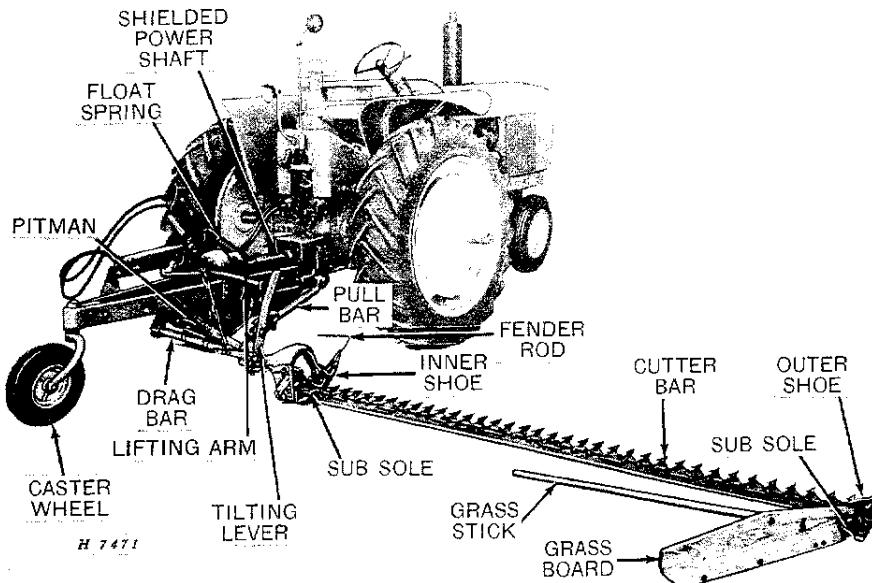
Serial No.

Date Purchased



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John Deere No. 8 Caster Wheel Mower Attached to a John Deere 3010 Tractor

SPECIFICATIONS

Length of Cutter Bar	6-, 7-, or 9-Foot
Type of Power	Power Take-Off on Tractor
Type of Drive	Steel Roller Drive Chain
Main Drive Shaft Bearings, Rear	Tapered Roller
Front	Tapered Roller
Flywheel Shaft Bearings, Rear	Tapered Roller
Front	Tapered Roller
Pitman Bearings	Tapered Roller
Lubrication of:	
Main Drive Chain	Enclosed in Oil
Caster Wheel	Grease Fittings
Type of Wheel	Pneumatic Tire
Pneumatic Tire Size	4.00 x 8—4-Ply Rating
Approximate Shipping Weight with 7-Foot Cutter Bar	630 Lbs. (No. 8 Mower) 650 Lbs. (No. 8W Mower)

(Specifications and design subject to change without notice.)

LUBRICATION

The economical and efficient operation of any machine is dependent upon regular and proper lubrication of all moving parts with a quality lubricant. Neglect leads to reduced efficiency, heavy draft, wear, breakdown, and replacement of parts.

CHAIN DRIVE HOUSING

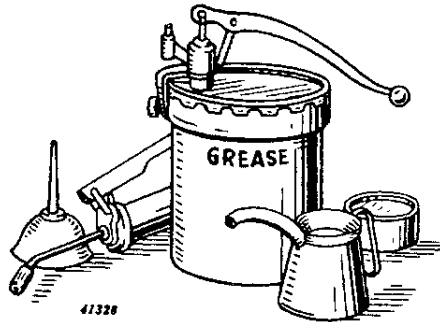
Oil from the chain drive housing lubricates drive chain, sprockets, fly-wheel, and drive shaft bearings. Keep a good grade of SAE 80 or SAE 90 multipurpose gear lubricant up to oil fill plug in housing. Oil should be drained and new oil should be put in at the beginning of each mowing season. **Do not use burned-out crankcase oil from automobile or tractor.** Check oil level at least every 50 hours of operation. To drain oil, remove lower cap screw from lower cover at bottom of chain drive housing.

Wipe dirt from grease fittings and nozzle of grease gun before greasing. Use SAE multipurpose grease in grease gun. Grease each fitting periodically as specified in chart on following page. Replace all missing grease fittings immediately.

Lubricate all parts thoroughly, but avoid excessive lubrication. Excessive lubrication will gather dust and dirt.

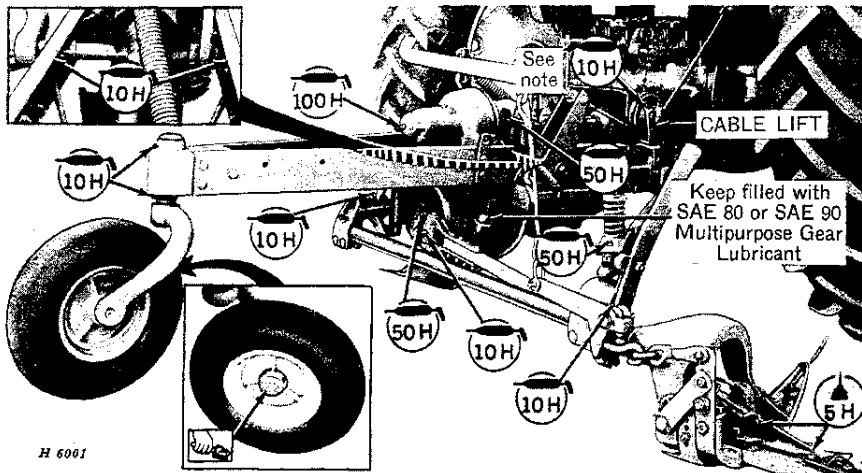
LUBRICATION OF CUTTER BAR AND KNIFE

Lubricate cutting parts thoroughly with SAE 30 engine oil **except** when working in dry, dusty, and sandy soil conditions; then do not lubricate at all except for a small amount at the knife holders.



KEEP LUBRICANTS CLEAN!

Use **only** high-grade lubricants which have been stored in clean containers. Wipe away all grease and dirt before removing filler caps or plugs.



SYMBOLS



Oil Every 5 Hours of Operation.



Grease Every 10 Hours of Operation.



Grease Every 50 Hours of Operation.



Grease Every 100 Hours of Operation.



Hand Pack Bearing Once a Year with SAE Multipurpose Grease.

NOTE: Every 50 hours of operation, remove front section of powershaft and apply grease to inside of square tube in rear section.

Do not handicap your equipment by using inferior or incorrect oil and grease. Use only quality lubricants at intervals specified in Operator's Manual.

Take all possible precaution to keep lubricants clean. This will save you money in long life for your equipment.

OPERATION

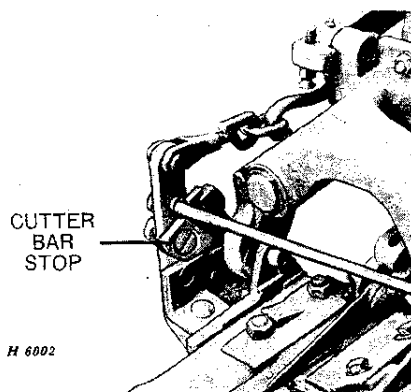
On the following pages you will find information on how to operate your John Deere Mower to best advantage. If you carefully read and follow these instructions, we are confident that your mower will give you years of dependable, economical service.

ATTACHING AND DETACHING MOWER

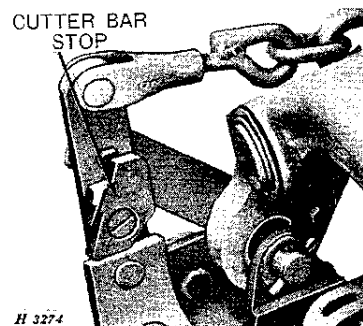
This mower can be attached to practically any make of tractor. Illustrations on pages 54 to 57 inclusive, show some of the extension drawbars which are available for several of the more common tractors. Study the illustration showing your make of tractor carefully and use it as your guide in attaching mower.

STARTING MOWER IN THE FIELD

Do not start tractor until mower has been carefully checked for correct assembly. See that all nuts are tight and cotter pins spread. **Rotate pitman by hand to make sure knife operates freely. Be sure all moving parts work freely and are properly lubricated. Check to see that powershaft telescopes freely.** *NOTE: Make sure that cutter bar stop is in operating position as shown in left-hand illustration below.*



Cutter Bar Stop in Operating Position



Cutter Bar Stop in Transporting Position

Start tractor engine and, while idling, slowly engage power take-off. Let mower run slowly for a while and observe knife, pitman connections, and other moving parts to see that they operate freely and normally. Check levers and controls to see that they operate properly.

After mower has been in full speed operation for one hour, stop tractor and mower and inspect mower to see that all nuts and bolts are tight.

OPERATING SPEED

Under most conditions the tractor can be driven at 4 to 5 miles per hour without causing undue wear on mower. Avoid excessive speeds. **Reasonable speeds result in more accomplished by the end of the day.** Various mowing conditions require different mowing speeds. Best results will be obtained by running the tractor at the travel speed that will meet crop and field conditions or the speed where the smoothest mowing action results.

Tractor engine should always be kept running at a normal speed which is 540 or 1000 rpm on PTO shaft. Running the engine at slow speed reduces the knife speed and may cause the knife to clog where cutting is heavy. Where difficult conditions make it necessary to slow down travel speed of tractor, shift to a lower gear, rather than retard the engine. By shifting to a lower gear, the engine can be kept at its rated speed, which will keep the knife running at the proper speed for best results.

Do not engage power take-off with engine running at high speed. To do so may cause undue wear or possible breakage.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF ACRES CUT PER HOUR

The following is a table showing the number of acres that can be cut in one hour of continuous cutting at various speeds.

Miles per Hour	2	2-1/4	2-1/2	2-3/4	3	3-1/4	3-1/2	3-3/4	4	4-1/4	4-1/2	4-3/4	5
6-Foot Cut..	1-1/2	1-5/8	1-7/8	2	2-1/8	2-3/8	2-1/2	2-3/4	3	3-1/8	3-1/4	3-1/2	3-3/4
7-Foot Cut..	1-3/4	1-7/8	2-1/8	2-3/8	2-1/2	2-3/4	3	3-1/8	3-1/2	3-5/8	3-3/4	4	4-1/4
9-Foot Cut..	2-1/4	2-3/8	2-3/4	3	3-1/4	3-1/2	3-7/8	4-1/8	4-3/8	4-5/8	4-7/8	5-1/8	5-1/2

TURNING CORNERS

This mower will cut neat, square corners. It is seldom necessary to raise cutter bar at corners. Turn quickly when within a swath's length from end, using brake to pivot right-hand wheel of tractor, when tractor is equipped with such a brake. This may be done more effectively with wide tread tractors.

When turning corners to the left, run tractor in low gear. The bar swings around faster when turning in this direction and this, of course, increases the possibility of striking an unnoticed fence post or some other obstacle.

TRANSPORTING

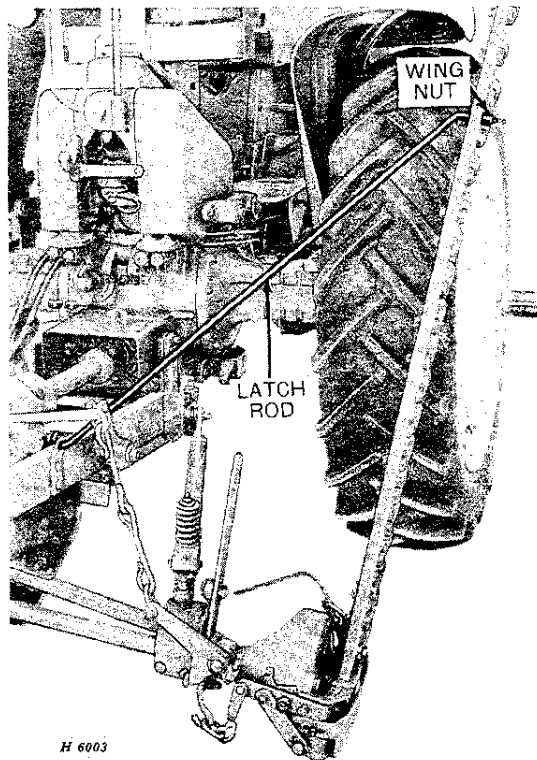


CAUTION: Before placing cutter bar in transport position be sure power take-off of tractor is disengaged and be certain to keep fingers away from cutting parts.

When moving from one field to another, or any considerable distance, the cutter bar must be placed in its transport position.

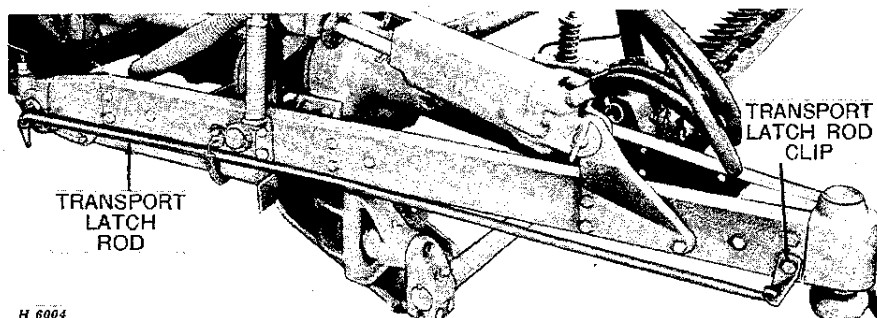
Move cutter bar stop away from yoke and raise cutter bar to its highest position. Hook transport latch rod into hole in clip on right-hand side of main frame. Raise cutter bar to an upright position and fit other end of transport latch rod through hole in cutter bar. Secure with wing nut.

NOTE: On mowers equipped with rope controlled hand lever, use forward holes in straps to obtain maximum height for transporting.



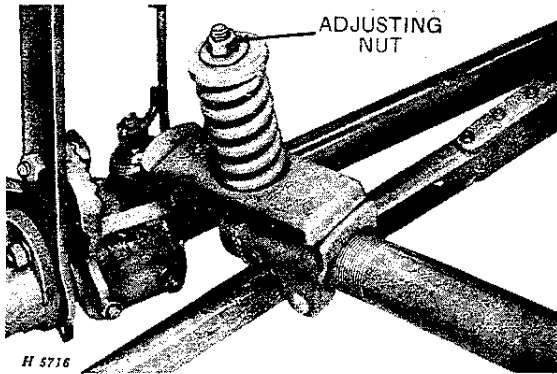
H 6003

When not in use, transport latch rod fits on left-hand side of main frame as shown.



H 6004

SAFETY SPRING RELEASE



A safety spring release prevents damage to the mower by allowing cutter bar to swing back when a field obstruction is encountered.

After the safety latch releases and the cutter bar swings back, it is not necessary to leave the tractor seat. Just cramp front wheels to the left and back the tractor until mower is in normal position and the safety latch catches.

Spring tension may be adjusted by means of adjusting nut. Do not tighten spring more than necessary for satisfactory operation.

STORING FOR THE WINTER

When storing mower for the winter, be sure cutter bar is not tilted so pitman is under strain—it is likely to take a permanent twist and later cause trouble. If possible, remove pitman.

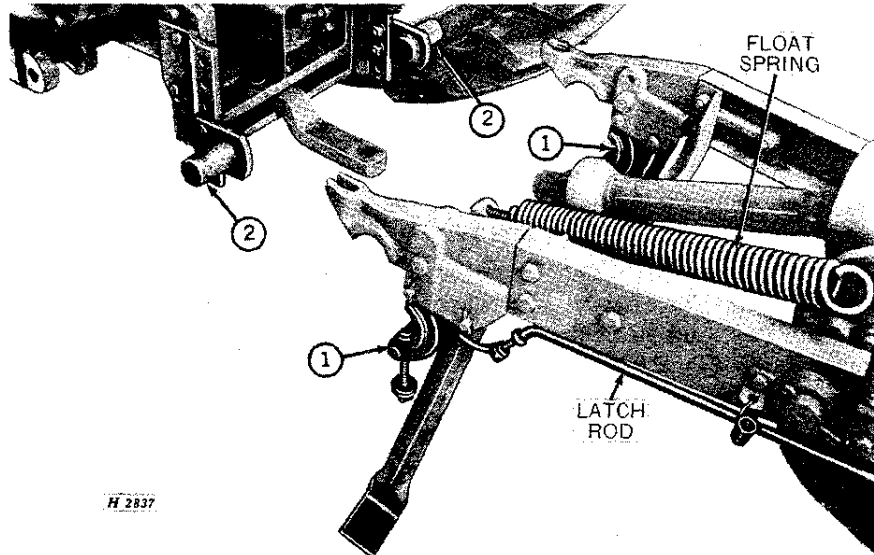
Clean off the dirt, tighten loose bolts, spread cotter pins, and grease the knives and wearing parts on cutter bar. **Order the new parts that will be needed before the mower is used again.**

**A Careful Operator
IS THE BEST INSURANCE
AGAINST AN ACCIDENT**

—National Safety Council

ATTACHING MOWER TO TRACTOR

ATTACHING CLAMPS AND SHIELDED POWERSHAFT



H 2837

1. Open Quik-Tatch clamps on mower.
2. Be sure that drawbar on tractor is in line with clamps on mower. Back tractor up until round pegs on drawbar are in line with clamps.

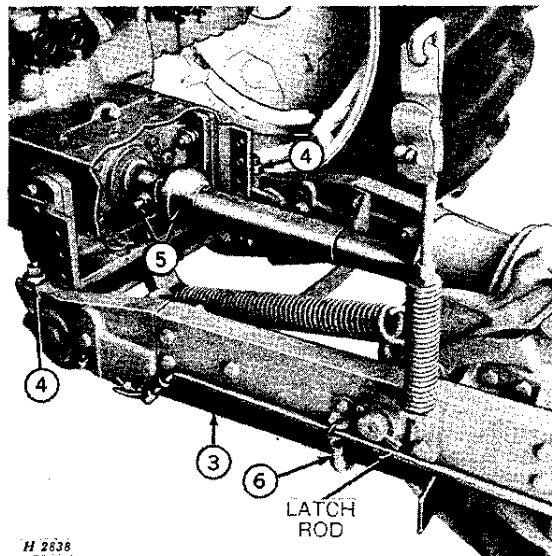
NOTE: If extension drawbars have been removed, see pages 53 through 57 for installation instructions.

3. Raise left-hand side of mower. Kick left-hand support legs back so weight of mower comes to rest on round peg on drawbar.

4. Raise right-hand side of mower. Kick right-hand support leg back so weight of mower comes to rest on round peg on drawbar. Fasten right-hand and left-hand clamps.

5. Attach shielded powershaft to power take-off shaft on tractor.

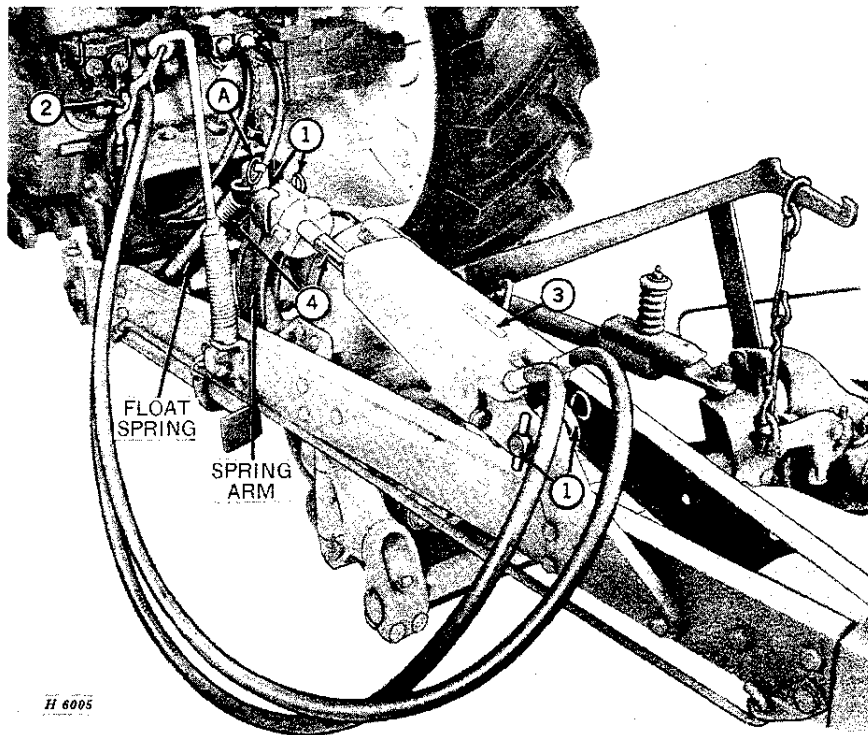
6. Lock support legs into operating position with latch springs—both sides. *NOTE: When locking up left-hand support leg be sure latch rod is hooked into clip and held into position with latch spring as shown.*



H 2838

ATTACHING REMOTE HYDRAULIC CYLINDER

1. Attach remote hydraulic cylinder to support bracket and spring arm with pins and spring locking pins.
2. Loosen wing nut on oil line clamps and insert oil lines in recesses in clamp. Tighten wing nut. Allow sufficient slack in lines to prevent pull on couplers during mower operation.
3. Adjust remote hydraulic cylinder for full stroke (see your tractor Operator's Manual). *NOTE: Be sure remote hydraulic cylinder oil lines are connected to the tractor so cutter bar is raised when tractor control lever is moved forward on the John Deere 2010, 3010, 3020, 4010, and 4020 Tractors. On the older Waterloo Tractors the control lever is moved to the rear.*
4. Extend the cylinder and push the spring arm forward. Remove lock pin "A" and hook float spring onto spring arm with loop pointed down. Replace lock pin "A."



H 6005

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