

240, 260, 265 and 285 Lawn and Garden Tractors

**John Deere Horicon Works
OMM79648 Issue D9
(This manual replaces M79599)**

LITHO IN U.S.A.
ENGLISH

Introduction

THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.

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.

MEASUREMENTS in this manual are U.S. customary units and their metric equivalents.

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

WRITE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS 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.



M41174
-UN-06SEP88

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.



O53,ALERT -19-16JUN87

T81389 -UN-07DEC88

UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS

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

Safety signs with signal word DANGER or WARNING are typically near specific hazards.

General precautions are listed on CAUTION safety signs. CAUTION also calls attention to safety messages in this manual.



O53,SIGNAL -19-07OCT85

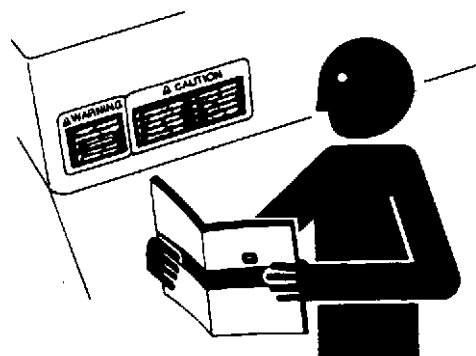
TS187 -19-30SEP88

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.

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.



O53,READ -19-23APR87

TS201 -UN-23AUG88

OPEI CERTIFICATION

This OPEI Label on your mower indicates that this model has been certified by an independent laboratory for compliance with American National Standard B-71.1-1986, "Safety Specifications" for Power Lawn Mowers, Lawn and Garden Tractors, and Lawn Tractors.



O53,CERT1 -19-27APR88

TS288 -19-07OCT88

PROTECT CHILDREN

Keep children and others away when you operate machine.

BEFORE YOU BACK UP:

- Stop the PTO.
- Look behind tractor for children.

Do not let children operate tractor.

Never carry children. Do not let children ride on tractor, mower, or any attachment.



MX,SAAG,A -19-13MAR89

M41274 -UN-06SEP88

AVOID TIPPING

Do not drive where machine could slip or tip.

Stay alert for holes, rock, and roots in the terrain, and other hidden hazards. Keep away from drop-offs.

Slow down before you make a sharp turn.

Use care when pulling loads or using heavy equipment.

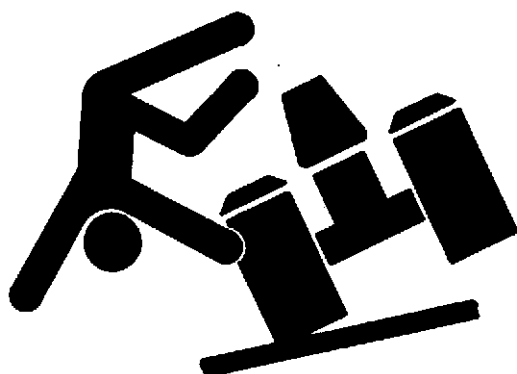
- Use only approved drawbar hitch points.
- Limit loads to those you can safely control.
- Use counterweights or wheel weights when suggested in this operator's manual.

Reduce speed and exercise extreme caution on slopes and in sharp turns to prevent tipping or loss of control. Be especially cautious when changing direction on slopes.

Do not stop or start suddenly when going uphill or downhill.

If machine stops going up hill:

- Stop the PTO.
- Back down slowly.



M41275 -UN-06SEP88

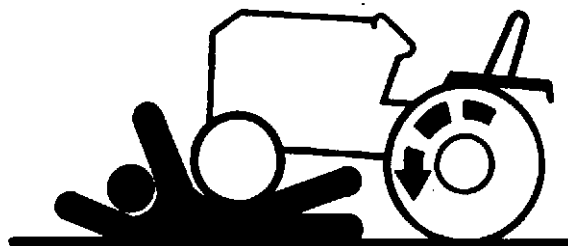
MX,SAAG,B -19-13MAR89

PARK TRACTOR SAFELY

To park tractor safely:

1. Move shift lever in "N" (neutral) position.
2. Disengage PTO's.
3. Lower equipment to the ground.
4. Engage park brake.
5. Stop the engine.
6. Remove key.

Before you leave the operator's seat, wait for engine and attachment parts to stop moving.



M41273 -UN-06SEP88

MX,SAAG,C -19-13MAR89

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