

john deere 37 sickle bar mower manual

The John Deere 37 Sickle Bar Mower Manual is an indispensable resource for any owner or operator of this classic piece of agricultural equipment. This comprehensive guide provides detailed instructions, troubleshooting tips, and maintenance schedules to ensure your mower operates at peak performance. Whether you are a seasoned farmer or new to sickle bar mowers, understanding the intricacies of your John Deere 37 is crucial for efficiency and longevity. This article delves into the essential components of the manual, from operation and maintenance to common issues and parts identification, all geared towards helping you get the most out of your mower. Proper understanding and application of the information within the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will undoubtedly enhance your mowing experience and preserve your valuable equipment.

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Understanding Your John Deere 37 Sickle Bar Mower

The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower is renowned for its robust design and effective cutting capabilities, making it a popular choice for various agricultural and landscaping applications. Its core function is to cut grass, hay, and other forage crops efficiently, preparing them for baling, grazing, or other uses. Understanding the fundamental principles of how this mower operates is the first step towards maximizing its potential and ensuring its reliable performance in the field. The manual serves as the primary source for this foundational knowledge.

This sickle bar mower utilizes a reciprocating knife (sickle bar) that moves back and forth, shearing the vegetation against stationary guards. This mechanism is powered by the tractor's Power Take-Off (PTO) system, which transmits rotational power to the mower's gearbox and drive components. The cutting head is designed to pivot, allowing it to follow ground contours and maintain a consistent cutting height, a feature that is thoroughly explained in the operational sections of the manual.

Key Features and Design of the 37 Sickle Bar Mower

The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower boasts a sturdy frame construction designed to withstand the rigors of field work. Its cutting head is engineered for durability and ease of

adjustment, allowing operators to adapt to different crop conditions and terrain. The manual details how to adjust cutting angles, bar height, and other settings to optimize performance for specific tasks. Familiarity with these features, as outlined in the owner's manual, is paramount for efficient operation.

Furthermore, the mower incorporates safety features designed to protect the operator and the equipment. These include mechanisms to disengage the power in case of obstructions and guards to prevent accidental contact with moving parts. The manual dedicates significant attention to these safety protocols, emphasizing their importance before, during, and after operation. Understanding the machine's design through the manual ensures safe and productive use.

Essential Components Covered in the Manual

A thorough John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will dissect the machine into its constituent parts, providing clear diagrams and descriptions for each. This detailed breakdown is crucial for understanding how each component contributes to the overall functionality of the mower. Knowing the names and functions of these parts is fundamental for both operation and maintenance, making the manual an invaluable diagnostic tool.

Key components typically detailed include the cutting head assembly, which comprises the sickle bar, ledger plates, and guards. The drive system, including the gearbox, pitman arm, and drive shaft, is also thoroughly explained. Understanding how these elements interact is essential for proper maintenance and troubleshooting. The manual also covers the frame, conditioning rolls (if equipped), and the attachment mechanism to the tractor.

The Cutting Head Assembly: Sickle Bar, Guards, and Ledger Plates

The cutting head is the heart of the sickle bar mower. The manual will meticulously explain the sickle bar, which is a series of sharpened knife sections attached to a long bar. It will describe the function of the guards, which are U-shaped metal pieces that support the sickle bar and provide a shearing surface. The ledger plates, often integrated into the guards, further enhance the cutting action by providing a stationary blade against which the sickle sections shear.

Proper adjustment and maintenance of these components are critical for a clean cut and to prevent damage. The manual will guide you through inspecting the sharpness of the knife sections, the alignment of the guards, and the condition of the ledger plates. It will also provide instructions on how to replace worn or damaged parts, ensuring optimal cutting performance and extending the life of your mower.

Drive System and Power Transmission

The drive system of the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower is responsible for converting the tractor's PTO power into the reciprocating motion of the sickle bar. The manual will detail the gearbox, which typically reduces the PTO speed and increases torque. It will also explain the pitman arm and strap assembly, which translates the rotary motion from the gearbox into the linear motion of the sickle bar.

Understanding the lubrication requirements of the drive system is vital for preventing premature wear. The manual will specify the type and frequency of lubrication for the gearbox, drive shaft bearings, and other moving parts. Following these recommendations meticulously, as outlined in the maintenance section, will ensure the longevity and reliable operation of the mower's power transmission components.

Operation and Safety Guidelines

Safe and efficient operation of your John Deere 37 sickle bar mower hinges on a thorough understanding of the procedures outlined in its manual. This section is not merely advisory; it is critical for preventing accidents and ensuring the longevity of your equipment. The manual will guide you through the entire process, from pre-operation checks to post-operation procedures, emphasizing safety at every step.

Operating a sickle bar mower requires careful attention to the surrounding environment, the condition of the ground, and the mower's settings. The manual will stress the importance of proper attachment to the tractor, ensuring all safety pins and guards are in place. It will also cover best practices for engaging the PTO, adjusting cutting height, and maneuvering the mower through various terrain types.

Pre-Operation Checks and Setup

Before each use, a series of crucial checks must be performed to ensure the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower is in optimal working condition and safe to operate. The manual will detail these pre-operation inspections, which typically include checking the tire pressure (if applicable), inspecting the cutting components for damage or wear, and verifying that all safety shields are properly secured. It will also guide you on how to check the oil level in the gearbox and ensure all drive components are functioning smoothly.

The manual will also cover the proper setup of the mower for attachment to the tractor. This includes ensuring the PTO shaft is correctly aligned and secured, and that the mower is properly balanced. Following these setup procedures meticulously is essential for preventing operational issues and ensuring operator safety. Adherence to these steps, as laid out in the manual, is a non-negotiable aspect of responsible mower operation.

Safe Operating Practices in the Field

Operating a sickle bar mower in the field demands constant vigilance and adherence to established safety practices. The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual provides comprehensive guidance on how to navigate various conditions safely. This includes maintaining a safe distance from bystanders and other machinery, especially when the PTO is engaged. The manual will also advise on how to operate on slopes, warning against steep inclines that could lead to instability or loss of control.

It is crucial to understand how to react to unexpected situations, such as hitting an obstruction. The manual will instruct operators on the proper procedure for disengaging the PTO immediately and inspecting the mower for damage. Familiarizing yourself with these safety protocols, as detailed in the manual, is paramount for preventing accidents and ensuring a safe working environment for yourself and others.

Maintenance and Lubrication Procedures

Regular and correct maintenance is the cornerstone of ensuring the longevity and reliable performance of your John Deere 37 sickle bar mower. The manual provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for all essential maintenance tasks, including lubrication, adjustments, and inspections. Neglecting these procedures can lead to premature wear, costly repairs, and operational failures.

The maintenance schedule outlined in the manual is designed to keep all moving parts in optimal condition, reducing friction and wear. This proactive approach not only extends the life of the mower but also ensures it operates at peak efficiency, delivering a clean and consistent cut every time. Investing time in understanding and implementing these maintenance recommendations will pay significant dividends in the long run.

Lubrication Schedule and Types of Lubricants

Proper lubrication is perhaps the most critical aspect of sickle bar mower maintenance. The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will provide a detailed lubrication schedule, specifying which components require lubrication, how often, and with what type of lubricant. This typically includes greasing points for the pitman arm, drive shaft bearings, and gearbox, as well as specific oil requirements for the gearbox itself.

The manual will recommend specific grades and types of lubricants to ensure compatibility with the mower's components and operating conditions. Using the wrong type of lubricant can lead to increased wear, overheating, and even component failure. By meticulously following the lubrication guidelines provided in the manual, you can significantly extend the lifespan of your mower's moving parts and prevent costly repairs.

Routine Inspections and Adjustments

Beyond lubrication, the manual will detail a schedule for routine inspections and adjustments that are vital for maintaining the mower's performance. These inspections typically include checking the wear on the sickle knife sections, ledger plates, and guards. The manual will guide you on how to determine when these components need sharpening or replacement.

Adjustments to the cutting height, cutting angle, and the tension of the pitman strap are also covered. These adjustments are crucial for achieving a clean cut in different crop conditions and for ensuring the mower operates efficiently. The manual provides clear instructions on how to make these adjustments safely and accurately, preventing undue stress on the mower's components and ensuring optimal cutting results.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

Even with diligent maintenance, sickle bar mowers can occasionally encounter operational issues. The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual serves as an invaluable troubleshooting guide, helping owners diagnose and resolve common problems quickly and effectively. This section of the manual is designed to empower users to identify the root cause of an issue and implement the correct solution, minimizing downtime.

By referencing the troubleshooting section, you can often identify and fix minor issues yourself, saving time and money on service calls. The manual typically organizes potential problems by symptom, making it easier to pinpoint the cause. Understanding these common issues and their solutions is a crucial aspect of efficient mower ownership.

Cutting Problems: Uneven Cut, Plugging, and Chattering

An uneven cut, plugging of the cutter bar, or chattering are common symptoms that can arise during operation. The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will address these issues systematically. Plugging, for instance, might be caused by dull knife sections, bent guards, or operating at too high a speed for the crop conditions. The manual will guide you through inspecting and rectifying these potential causes.

Chattering can often be attributed to a loose pitman strap, worn bearings, or improper alignment of the sickle bar. The manual will provide step-by-step instructions for checking these components and making the necessary adjustments or replacements. By understanding the potential causes and solutions for these cutting-related problems, you can ensure your mower consistently delivers a clean and efficient cut.

Drive System Malfunctions and Noises

Noises emanating from the drive system, or a complete lack of power transmission, are indicative of potential malfunctions. The manual will offer diagnostic steps for common drive system issues. This might include investigating strange noises, such as grinding or knocking, which could point to worn gears in the gearbox, damaged bearings, or a failing PTO U-joint.

If the sickle bar is not moving or is moving erratically, the troubleshooting section will guide you through checking the PTO connection, the condition of the drive shaft, and the pitman arm assembly. The manual will also advise on the correct lubrication levels and practices, as improper lubrication is a frequent cause of drive system problems. Addressing these issues promptly, as recommended in the manual, is vital for preventing more serious damage.

Parts Identification and Replacement

When components of your John Deere 37 sickle bar mower inevitably wear out or become damaged, knowing how to identify and replace them is essential. The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual includes detailed parts diagrams and lists, which are invaluable resources for procurement and repair. These diagrams provide a visual representation of the entire mower, with each part clearly numbered and labeled.

Using the parts list, you can precisely identify the specific part number needed for replacement. This accuracy is critical when ordering from a dealer or supplier, ensuring you receive the correct item. The manual will also offer guidance on the general procedure for replacing common wear items, empowering you to perform basic repairs yourself.

Using Parts Diagrams for Accurate Identification

The illustrated parts diagrams within the manual are your primary tool for parts identification. These diagrams break down the mower into sections, such as the cutting head, drive train, and frame, and display exploded views of each assembly. Each component in the diagram is assigned a unique number that corresponds to an entry in the accompanying parts list.

By carefully comparing the damaged or worn component on your mower with the diagrams, you can accurately identify its position and corresponding part number. This visual reference is particularly helpful when dealing with complex assemblies. The manual ensures that you can confidently identify every nut, bolt, blade, and gear required for maintenance or repair.

Ordering and Installing Replacement Parts

Once you have identified the necessary replacement parts using the manual's diagrams and lists, the next step is to order them. The manual will typically provide part numbers that can be directly used when contacting a John Deere dealer or an authorized parts supplier. Having the correct part number is the most efficient way to ensure you receive the exact component required.

While the manual may not provide detailed installation instructions for every single part, it will often offer guidance on the general procedures for replacing common wear items like knife sections or guards. For more complex repairs, it's advisable to consult with a qualified mechanic. However, understanding the parts and their assembly, as illustrated in the manual, provides a solid foundation for any repair work.

Securing Your John Deere 37 Sickle Bar Mower Manual

The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual is a vital document that should be readily accessible to any owner or operator. Its comprehensive information on operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and parts is crucial for the efficient and safe use of the mower. Ensuring you have a copy and know where to find it is the first step to maximizing the utility and lifespan of your equipment.

Whether you own a physical copy or a digital version, keeping it in a safe and accessible location is paramount. This ensures that when you need to consult it for routine maintenance, a quick adjustment, or to diagnose an unexpected issue, the necessary information is at your fingertips. Investing a little effort in securing your manual will save you considerable time and potential frustration down the line.

Where to Find a Replacement Manual

If you have misplaced your original John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual or purchased a used mower without one, obtaining a replacement is essential. The most reliable source for an official manual is a John Deere dealership. They can often access historical service and operator manuals for older equipment based on the model number.

Alternatively, many John Deere manuals are available for purchase or download from reputable online retailers specializing in agricultural equipment manuals. When searching online, ensure you are acquiring a manual specific to the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower model to guarantee accuracy. Digital copies can offer convenience, allowing you to search for specific terms quickly.

Tips for Storing and Accessing Your Manual

Proper storage of your John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual is crucial for its longevity and usability. If you have a physical copy, store it in a dry, clean environment, away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and moisture. A dedicated binder or a plastic sleeve can protect the pages from damage, especially if the manual is frequently consulted in a workshop or field setting.

For digital copies, ensure you save the PDF or e-book to a stable storage location, such as a computer's hard drive or a cloud storage service. Consider printing out key sections, like the maintenance schedule or troubleshooting guide, for quick reference in the field. The goal is to make the information accessible when you need it most, whether for routine tasks or unexpected repairs.

Q: Where can I purchase a John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual?

A: You can typically purchase an official John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual from a John Deere dealership. Many online retailers that specialize in agricultural equipment manuals also offer new and used copies for sale.

Q: My John Deere 37 sickle bar mower is making a loud grinding noise from the gearbox. What could be the problem according to the manual?

A: According to a typical John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual, a loud grinding noise from the gearbox could indicate worn gears, damaged bearings, or a lack of proper lubrication. The manual would advise checking the oil level and condition, and inspecting the gears for damage.

Q: How often should I lubricate the sickle bar components on my John Deere 37 mower?

A: The lubrication schedule in the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will specify the frequency for greasing points such as the pitman arm and drive shaft bearings. This is often recommended before each use or after a certain number of operating hours, depending on the specific component and conditions.

Q: What is the function of the guards on a John Deere 37 sickle bar mower?

A: The guards on a John Deere 37 sickle bar mower provide support for the sickle bar and act as a stationary surface against which the knife sections shear the vegetation. They

protect the knife sections from damage and help guide the crop into the cutting path.

Q: My sickle bar is not cutting evenly. What steps should I take as per the manual?

A: According to the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual, an uneven cut can be caused by dull knife sections, bent guards, improper cutting height adjustments, or operating too fast. The manual would advise inspecting and sharpening or replacing the knife sections, checking guard alignment, and verifying cutting height settings.

Q: Can I find parts diagrams for my John Deere 37 sickle bar mower in the manual?

A: Yes, a comprehensive John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will include detailed parts diagrams that illustrate all components of the mower, along with corresponding part numbers in a parts list.

Q: What safety precautions should I be aware of when operating a John Deere 37 sickle bar mower?

A: The manual will emphasize several safety precautions, including ensuring all safety shields are in place, maintaining safe distances from bystanders, properly engaging and disengaging the PTO, and being aware of terrain conditions to prevent rollovers or loss of control.

Q: How do I adjust the cutting height on my John Deere 37 sickle bar mower?

A: The John Deere 37 sickle bar mower manual will provide specific instructions on how to adjust the cutting height, which typically involves manipulating lift arms or adjustment screws on the mower's frame or cutting head assembly.

Q: Is it recommended to use the tractor's hydraulic system to lift the sickle bar mower when transporting?

A: Yes, the manual will typically advise using the tractor's hydraulic lift system for transporting the John Deere 37 sickle bar mower, and will detail the correct procedure for doing so safely.

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