



Elec-Trak[®]

Tractor

PRODUCT SERVICE BULLETIN NO. _____ 9

May 28, 1971

MOWING TIPS*

With another mowing season underway this bulletin is intended to help owners of Elec-Trak tractors and mowers get the best service and performance from the equipment. These suggestions come from experience and reports during the past year, and represent owners' and our test group's reports of mowing under all conditions of terrain, grass, and weather.

Mower

All owners should now have the full rear roller and the mower guide bar addition, which greatly improves the operation of the mower. Anyone who does not have these two items should contact his dealer to obtain them at no charge. The rear discharge mower should have a deflector flap of proper size for the roller. The side discharge mower does not require the flap, but it may be left on if installed. Check all bolts and nuts for tightness before mowing after the winter storage.

Cutting

Always mow with sharp blades. The blades can be sharpened in place on the Elec-Trak mower. Always disconnect the power cord before working on the mower. After several sharpenings the blades should be checked for balance. Unbalanced blades can shorten the life of the mower motor bearings.

For good appearance of the mowed lawn, it is important to have the mower adjusted correctly for height of cut. Unequal adjustments can affect the cutting appearance because the blades will not be level. Each front caster wheel should be set by locating the desired number of spacers under the caster support. Then the rear roller must be adjusted at each end at the rear of the mower. The number of holes on the roller adjuster should correspond to the number of spacers under the caster support. If there are no spacers below (all five spacers on top), the roller adjuster should be set in the upper hole. If one spacer is below, the roller adjuster should be set in the second hole from the top, and so on.

After determining that the mower is set for level mowing as described above, each owner should determine the best height of cut. It is suggested that the use of two spacers below the caster support be tried first. Closer cutting can be obtained with fewer spacers, but care must be used not to scalp uneven parts of the lawn. As the cutting height is increased to more than 2 spacers, some types of grass and turf may begin to show the tire tracks where the grass is long enough to be rolled down and not spring back up.

Tractors are shipped with high pressure in the tires. The dealer must reduce the pressure to that recommended on the hang tag or the Use & Care Manual. If the tractor is tracking the lawn or gives a bumpy ride, reduce the rear tire pressure to 8-10 psi.

The rear discharge mower is best suited to a regularly cut lawn, the use of a sweeper to pick up clippings, and it offers obvious safety advantages with discharge down and under the tractor. The side discharge mower is best suited to long, limp or wet grass, and leaving the clippings on the lawn. On the side discharge mower the large space between the mower front and the blades, and the rear baffle, act to cut the grass clippings into smaller pieces. This action, combined with a broader scattering of the discharge, gives the cleanest appearance.

If a patch of grass is uncut because one blade has stopped turning and then resumes cutting after 10-30 feet of travel, the circuit breaker on that motor interrupted power because of over current, which could damage the motor if power were not removed. The circuit breaker recloses automatically when the motor has cooled, and the motor resumes running. High grass or obstructions or mowing at too

*This has been sent to owners.

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