

SAFE WORK PROCEDURES SLASHER MOWER



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All tractors must be fitted with an approved Roll-Over Protection Structure (ROPS) unless exempted in particular situations by local legislation or codes.
2. A person must not operate a tractor unless they have received instruction and training sufficient to allow them to do so safely. Age restrictions apply in some States.
3. A person must not drive a tractor on a public road unless they hold the appropriate drivers' licence.

Sequence	Identified hazards	Key processes to be followed	Precautions / PPE required
1. Pre-start checks	Fuel and fluids Tyres Lights and alarms Steering and brakes Controls Skirt Deck wheels	Check fuel, hydraulic oil, engine oil, transmission oil, coolant and battery. Check tyre condition and pressures; remove any mud lumps from treads. Check horn, reversing alarm, lights and instruments. Test steering both ways, and check braking and park brake operation. Lock separated brake pedals together if travelling. Make sure that controls operate correctly and return to centre when released. Inspect skirt to ensure that all chains are in place, or rubber skirting is intact. Make sure that deck wheels rotate and turn freely, and tyres are inflated.	Wear eye and hand protection . Do not use if controls are faulty.
2. Entry and exit	Slipping and falls	Operator should maintain 3 points of contact at all times while mounting or dismounting tractor. Operator should wear suitable non-slip footwear.	Steps should be of a non-slip type. Foot protection must be worn.
3. Operator position	Seating Seat belt Controls Cabin (if fitted) Mirrors	Seat should be adjusted to allow a comfortable operating position. Seat belt must be fitted, correctly adjusted and worn when machine is used. All gauges and levers must be clearly identified, and within easy reach. Adequate ventilation must be provided. Exhaust must be placed so as to not allow fumes to enter cabin. Clean and adjust mirrors before commencing work,	Adjust seat before operating. Seat belt must be worn.
4. Attachments	Wear or damage Hydraulic drives Power take off 3-point linkage	Inspect slasher deck for wear, damage, or loose or missing parts. Check blades and belts for excessive wear. Check hoses and fittings for evidence of leaks, splits or fractures. Ensure that guards are fitted to power take off point and driveshaft. Guards are to enclose the whole shaft to prevent any part of a person's body or clothing coming into contact with a moving part. Make sure that slasher deck is securely fitted with no loose pins or bolts. Ensure that attachment is correctly fitted to 3-point linkage before moving. Test operation by raising and lowering attachment. Only use drawbar or supplied mounting points for attaching equipment. Never hitch above rear axle, to axle housing, or to the top link pin.	Wear gloves . Do not place any part of the body under deck unless securely supported. Locking pins must be fitted. Raise attachment for travel. Fit attachments according to manufacturers' instructions.

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5. Travel	Passengers Loss of control Overturning	Passengers must not be carried unless proper seat with seat belt fitted. Do not travel at speeds which may cause control to be lost over bumps, etc. Avoid driving over obstacles, ditches, drains, etc which could affect control. Avoid travel across slope on a steep incline. Avoid sharp turns or turning at speed.	Check terrain before travelling. Avoid changing gear on slopes. Travel down a slope in low gear, use engine compression as brake. Slow down to turn.
6. Operation	Overturning Dust, noise	Carry deck close to ground for stability and rear visibility. Do not start blade drive until ready to cut. Appropriate protective equipment should be used where hazards may be encountered during operation. Wear face mask or respirator in dusty conditions where enclosed cabin is not provided.	Eye protection must be worn. Hearing protection may be required in some work situations. Wear high-visibility garment when working on roads or where other traffic will be encountered.
7. Parking	Stability Security	Park on level ground if possible. Position machine “up and down” the slope if parking on sloping ground. Apply handbrake, place transmission in neutral or “park” position. Lower attachments fully with attachment flat on ground. Switch off engine, remove keys and lock cabin before leaving machine unattended.	Stop tractor completely before dismounting. Do not leave tractor unattended with engine running.
8. Maintenance	Moving parts Falling object/crushing Foreign objects, dust Sharp edges Over-exertion/strain Falling objects	Make sure that slasher blades cannot operate before working on slasher. Make sure that slasher deck is fully supported and prevented from falling before carrying out work under deck. Do not use props to support deck. Underside of deck will be covered in dust and grass debris. Metal parts (blades, bolts, etc) will develop sharp edges and nicks in use. Obtain assistance when handling heavy or awkwardly-shaped objects. Avoid dropping components when removing or replacing to deck.	Turn engine off before working. Use chains or lockable stands to support deck while working. Eye protection must be worn. Hand protection should be worn. Observe correct lifting practices. Wear type 1 footwear .

PRECAUTIONS:

The following precautions are to be observed in areas where these procedures are carried out.



