

Special Edition LX178 Motorsport

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

**John Deere
Worldwide Commercial and
Consumer Equipment Division
OMM129094 J6**

**North American Version
Litho in U.S.A
English**

INTRODUCTION

THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.

Read this manual and your attachment manuals thoroughly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.



WARNING: The Engine Exhaust from this product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

CALIFORNIA Proposition 65 Warning

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 metric units and their U.S. customary equivalents. RIGHT-HAND and LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction the machine will travel when going forward. When you see a broken line arrow (- - - ➔) it indicates the part it is pointing to is hidden.

Record identification numbers below. Be sure to record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine if it is stolen. You also need to give these numbers to your dealer when you order parts.

Date of Purchase:

Dealer Name:

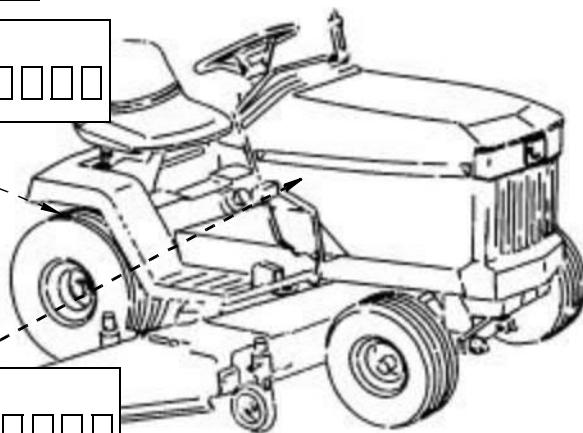
Phone:

Vehicle Serial Number:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Engine Serial Number:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



INTRODUCTION

Few sports in the world today have the power, the enthusiasm and the loyalty as NASCAR.

And few sponsors on the NASCAR circuit have as good a fit as John Deere and motorsports.

The reason is simple. Customers like you.

First of all, thank you for purchasing this special edition John Deere Motorsports Lawn Tractor. And congratulations on making a buying decision that will reward you for many seasons to come of enjoyable machine operation.

It's a safe bet when the slogan Nothing Runs Like a Deere ® was first used some 25 years ago, 190 miles per hour was not what they had in mind. But that is exactly what is happening as a green-and-yellow Pontiac Grand Prix, competes in the Winston Cup Series in 1997.

Moving "up to Cup", makes a powerful statement for John Deere... their customers...and motorsports fans. You know what it takes to be a success on the extraordinarily competitive Winston Cup circuit.

It takes incredible teamwork to build and keep the vehicle running. High precision and high performance components. Significant investments in research and development. Testing in some of the most brutal conditions in the world today. A world-class dedication to safety. A continuous effort toward product improvement to get the competitive edge. And finally, a driver who constantly desires to be the best his team helps him to be.

Sounds a lot like how John Deere people engineer, build and support the lawn tractor you now own.

Sponsoring a John Deere NASCAR vehicle has often been talked about over the years...but the timing wasn't right. Many of our customers have a long-time interest in auto racing. Many have hands on experience. Stockcar "roots" run deep with a significant portion of John Deere customers and employees.

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INTRODUCTION

Today NASCAR's Winston Cup Series, is on a global growth curve that is out of this world. The Series encompasses over 30 races that will run from California to Texas to New Hampshire and Florida...and many racetracks in-between.

This uniquely American series of events is gaining momentum overseas as well. Great tracks exist in Japan and Australia...with more on the horizon.

While the courses vary, the scene on race day is much the same. Huge crowds, often over 100,000 strong, are at the track, while millions more tune in on the television and radio. It's a frenzy of thundering engines, cheering fans, and blurring, decal'd cars pushing 200 miles per hour.

John Deere's driver, Chad Little, will be behind the wheel of the "97" car. His roots in auto racing run deep as well.

"My dad raced cars", explains Little, "and when I was 15, I raced hobby stocks at tracks around my hometown of Spokane, Washington."

Racing remained an important part of Little's life, racing summers as he got a college business degree and then a law degree. After law school, Little took on racing full-time.

Supporting the efforts at the track is a wide array of motorsports merchandise for the race fan to purchase. Stop into your John Deere dealer to find out more information about race date schedules and merchandise.

Thanks again...and look for the John Deere green and yellow "97" on televised races from February through November. Or if your schedule allows...buy a ticket to a race and experience the power of motorsports for yourself.

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John Deere Worldwide Commercial and
Consumer Equipment Division
Horicon, WI
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NOTES

NOTES

SAFETY SIGNS

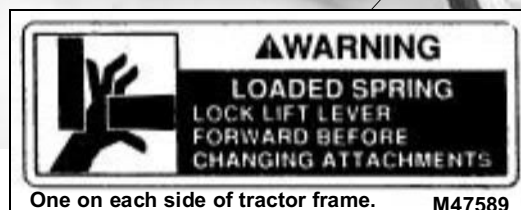
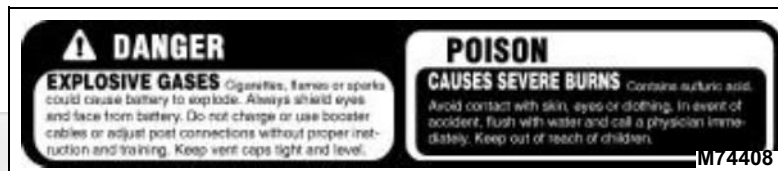
Safety-Alert Symbol

Read and recognize safety information. Be alert to the potential for personal injury when you see this safety-alert symbol.

On your machine safety labels, the words DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION are used with this safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards. In this manual, the word CAUTION and this symbol call attention to safety messages.



Machine Safety Labels



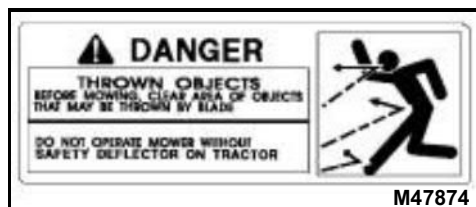
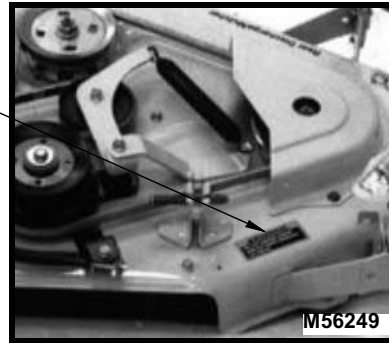
SAFETY SIGNS



M86487

SAFETY SIGNS

Machine Safety Labels (44-Inch Mower)



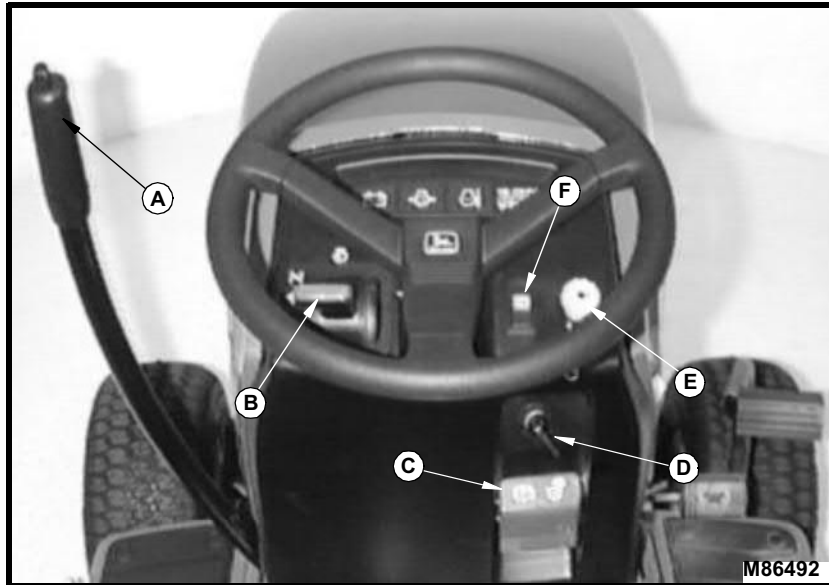
Certification Label

This OPEI label on your mower indicates that this model has been certified by an independent laboratory for compliance with American National Standard B-71.1-1990, "Safety Specifications" for Power Lawn Mowers, Lawn and Garden Tractors, and Lawn Tractors.

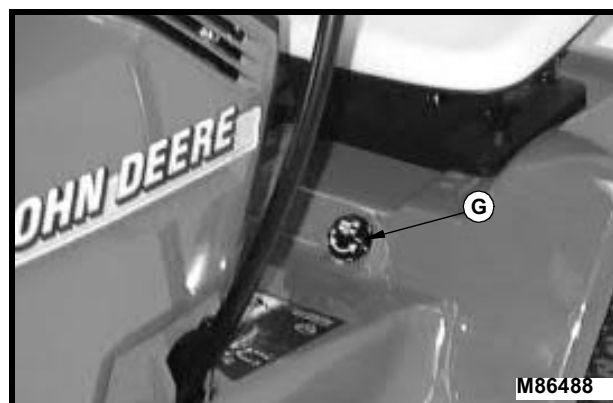


CONTROLS

Dash Controls



- A - Lift Lever Raises/Lowers attachments
- B - Throttle Lever Controls engine speed
- C - Park Brake Lever..... Engages park brake
- D - Key..... Starts engine
- E - PTO Knob.....Engages attachments
- F - Light Switch..... Push to engage lights
- G - Mower Height Control..... Raises/Lowers mower



CONTROLS

Foot/Platform Controls



- H - Brake PedalStops machine
- I - Forward Travel Pedal.....Starts machine travel
- J - Reverse Travel Pedal.....Backs machine

CONTROLS

Indicator Lights



- K - Battery Discharge Light**
- L - Engine Oil Pressure Light**
- M - Coolant Temperature Light**

OPERATING THE MACHINE

SAFETY



Operate Safely

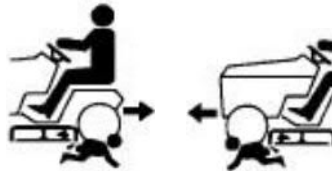
- Check brake action before you operate. Adjust or service brakes as necessary.
- Inspect machine before you operate. Be sure hardware is tight. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Be sure guards and shields are in good condition and fastened in place. Make any necessary adjustments before you operate.
- Clear work area of objects that might be thrown. Keep people and pets out of the work area. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
- If you hit an object, stop the machine and inspect it. Make repairs before you operate. Keep machine and attachments properly maintained and in good working order.
- DO NOT leave machine unattended when it is running.
- Only operate during daylight or with good artificial light.
- Be careful of traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
- Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating the machine. Safe operation requires your full attention.

Park Safely

- Stop machine on a level surface, not on a slope.
- Disengage PTO.
- Lower attachments to the ground.
- Engage park brake.
- STOP engine.
- Remove key.
- Before you leave the operator's seat, wait for engine and all moving parts to STOP.

OPERATING THE MACHINE

Rotating Blades are Dangerous - Protect Children and Prevent Accidents



PROTECT CHILDREN:

- Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them. Children are attracted to mowing activity, stay alert to the presence of children.
- Keep children in the house when you are operating the machine.
- Turn machine off if a child enters the mowing area.
- Use extra care when you come to blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may block your vision.
- DO NOT let children or an untrained person operate the machine.
- DO NOT carry or let children ride on machine or any attachment. DO NOT tow children in a cart or trailer.

HELP PREVENT SERIOUS OR FATAL ACCIDENTS:

- Be alert at all times, drive forward carefully. People especially children can move quickly into the mowing area before you know it.
- Back carefully. Shut off PTO and look behind the machine carefully, especially for children, before you back up.
- DO NOT mow in reverse unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Shut off PTO when you are not mowing.
- DO NOT operate machine if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



Suggest:

If the above button click is invalid.

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Thank you so much for reading

OPERATING THE MACHINE

Avoid Tipping



- DO NOT drive where machine could slip or tip.
- Stay alert for holes and other hidden hazards in the terrain.
- Keep away from drop-offs.
- Slow down before you make a sharp turn or operate on a slope.
- When pulling loads or using heavy equipment, use only approved hitches, limit loads to those you can safely control, and use counterweights or wheel weights when required per this manual or your attachment manual.
- Drive up and down a hill - not across. Be careful when you change direction on a slope.
- DO NOT stop when going up hill or down hill. If machine stops going up hill, STOP PTO and back down slowly.
- DO NOT mow wet grass. Reduced traction could cause sliding.
- DO NOT try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.

Keep Riders Off



- Only allow the operator on the machine. Keep riders off.
- Riders on the machine or attachment may be struck by foreign objects or thrown off the machine causing serious injury.
- Riders obstruct the operator's view resulting in the machine being operated in an unsafe manner.

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