

# **3215A and 3235A TURF SYSTEM I & II Lightweight Fairway Mowers**

**(Serial No. 030201 – )**

## **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

**John Deere  
Lawn & Grounds Care Division  
OMMT2777 A6**

**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.



## CALIFORNIA Proposition 65 Warning

Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

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:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Product Identification Number:**

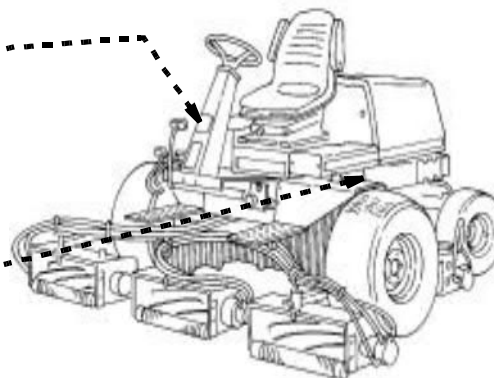
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(On right side of frame)

**Engine Serial Number:**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(Under hood)



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# SAFETY SIGNS

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## Safety-Alert Symbol

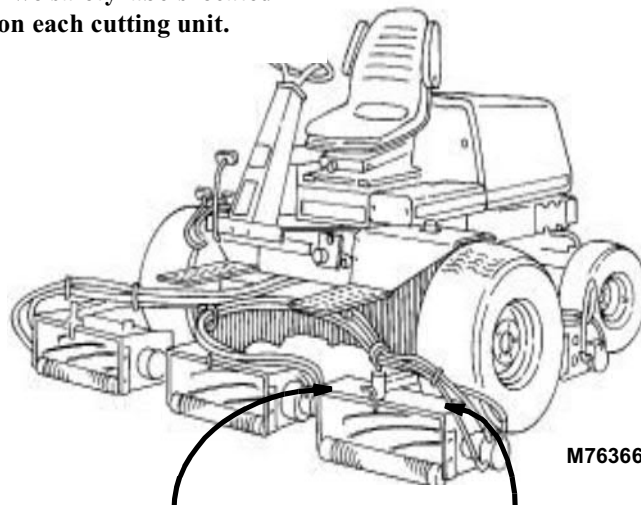
Read and recognize safety information. Be alert to the potential for personal injury when you see this safety-alert symbol.

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

Two safety labels located on each cutting unit.

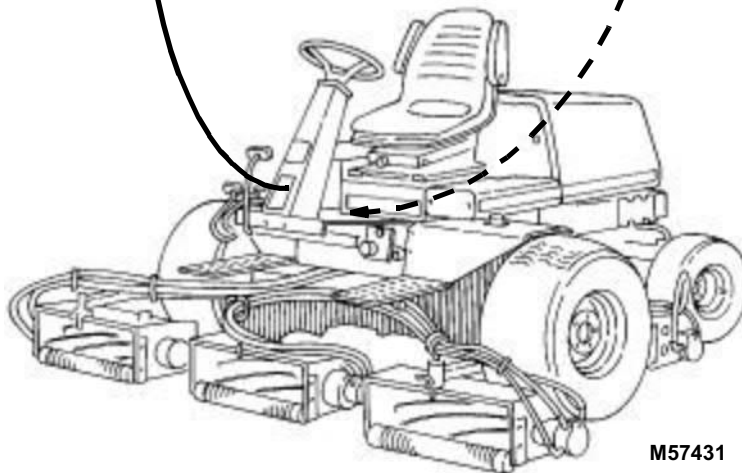


# SAFETY SIGNS

## Machine Safety Labels (Continued)



(On floor panel)



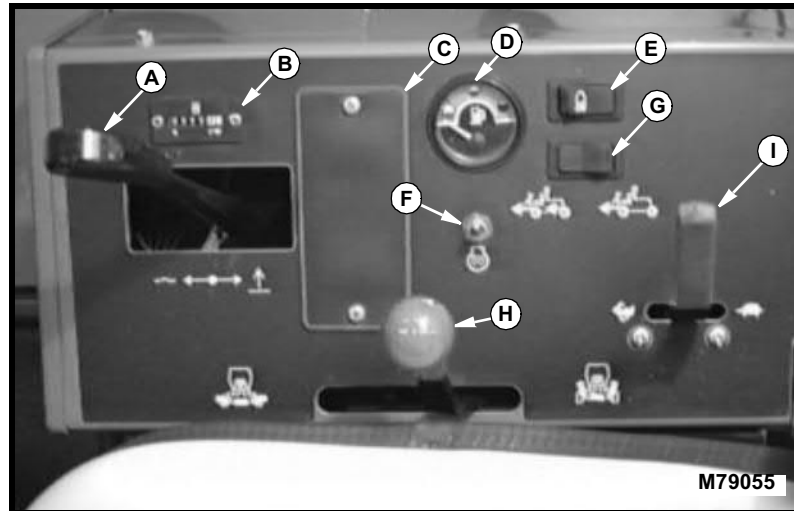
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# CONTROLS

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## Dash Controls

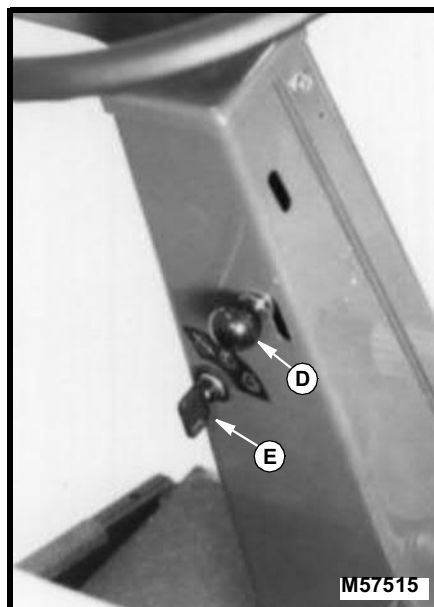
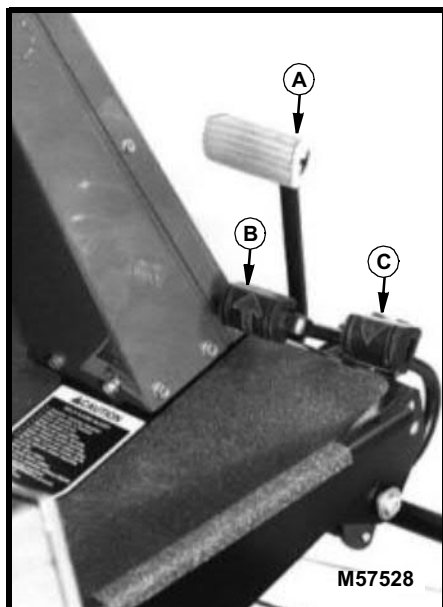
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- A - Lift/Lower Lever ..... Raises/lowers cutting units
- B - Hour Meter ..... Records engine run time
- C - Indicator Light Module.....Monitors machine functions
- D - Fuel Gauge.....Indicates fuel level
- E - Light Switch (Optional)..... Push to engage lights
- F - Cold Start Switch ..... Engages air heater
- G - Power Assist Switch (Optional) ..... Engages rear wheel drive
- H - Mow/Transport Lever .....Engages reel drive
- I - Throttle Lever .....Controls engine speed

# CONTROLS

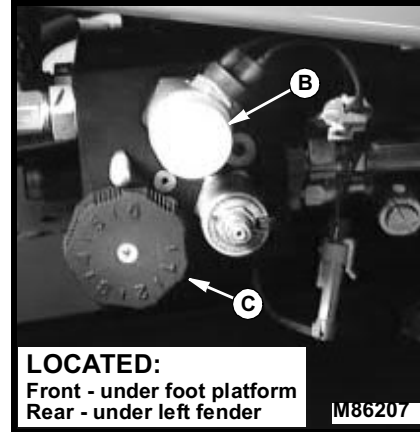
## Foot/Platform Controls



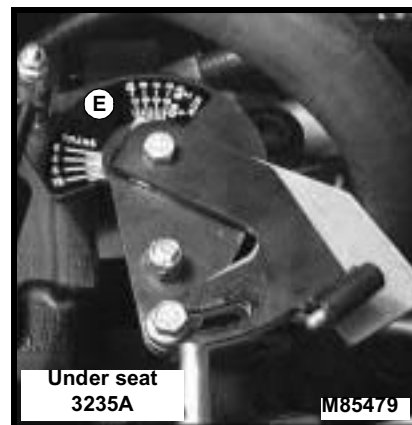
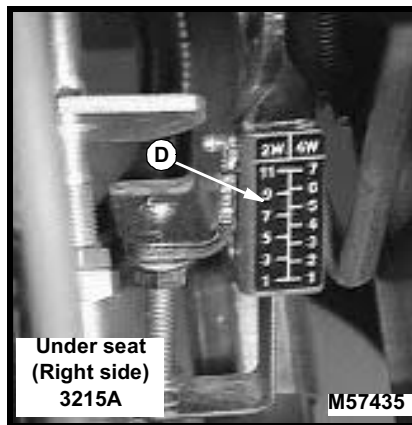
- A - Service/Park Brake Pedal ..... Stops machine
- B - Forward Travel Pedal ..... Starts machine forward travel
- C - Reverse Travel Pedal ..... Starts machine rearward travel
- D - Park Brake Knob ..... Locks/unlocks park brake
- E - Ignition Key ..... Starts engine

# CONTROLS

## Miscellaneous Controls



- A - Air Restrictor Indicator ..... Shows engine air filter restriction
- B - Reel Forward/Reverse Knob..... Controls cutting unit reel direction
- C - Reel Speed Control ..... Controls cutting unit reel speed



- D - Mow Speed Adjustment (3215A) ..Adjusts maximum mowing travel speed
- E - Mow/Transport Speed Adjustment (3235A)..... Adjusts maximum mowing and transport travel speed

# OPERATING THE MACHINE

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## Operator Training Required

- Study the operation section of this manual before operating the machine.
- Learn to operate the machine in an open, unobstructed area under the direction of an experienced operator.
- Become familiar with the delayed manner with which rear cutting units raise and lower when cutting. Practice is necessary to operate cutting units properly to minimize clean-up mowing operation.
- Learn the use of all controls.
- Operator experience is required to learn the moving, stopping, turning and other operating characteristics and service of the machine.

## 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 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.



## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### Park Safely

- Stop machine on a level surface, not on a slope.
- Throttle down.
- Move Mow/Transport lever to TRANSPORT.
- Lower Cutting units 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.



### Use Seat Belt Properly

Use a seat belt when you operate with an optional roll-over protective structure (ROPS) to minimize chance of injury from an accident such as an overturn.



Do not use a seat belt if operating without a ROPS.

### Avoid Damage To Plastic And Painted Surfaces

- Insect repellent spray may damage plastic and painted surfaces. Do not spray insect repellent near machine.
- Be careful not to spill fuel on machine. Fuel may damage surface. Wipe up spilled fuel immediately.

## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### **Rotating Blades Are Dangerous - Prevent Accidents**



#### **PROTECT OTHERS:**

- Turn machine off if another person 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 untrained person operate the machine.
- DO NOT carry or let others ride on machine.

#### **HELP PREVENT SERIOUS OR FATAL ACCIDENTS:**

- Be alert at all times, drive forward carefully. People can move quickly into the mowing area before you know it.
- DO NOT operate machine if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Back carefully. Shut off cutting units and look behind the machine carefully before you back up.
- DO NOT mow in reverse.
- Shut off cutting units when you are not mowing.
- Stop engine and wait for reels to stop turning before making any adjustments to the cutting units.
- Keep hands and feet away from cutting units while machine is running.

## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### 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.
- 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, raise cutting units and back down slowly.



### 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.



### Wear Appropriate Clothing

- Wear a hardhat.
- Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate for the job.
- Loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing, wear a suitable protective device such as earplugs.
- Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating the machine. Safe operation requires your full attention.



## **OPERATING THE MACHINE**

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### **Check Wheel Bolts**

- A serious accident could occur causing serious injury if wheel bolts are not tight.
- Check wheel bolt tightness often during the first 100 hours of operation. Check at 5, 50 and 100 hours.

### **Avoid High Pressure Fluids**



- Escaping fluid under pressure can penetrate the skin causing serious injury. Avoid the hazard by relieving pressure before disconnecting hydraulic or other lines. Tighten all connections before applying pressure.
- Search for leaks with a piece of cardboard. Protect hands and body from high pressure fluids.
- If an accident occurs, see a doctor immediately. Any fluid injected into the skin must be surgically removed within a few hours or gangrene may result. Doctors unfamiliar with this type of injury should reference a knowledgeable medical source. Such information is available from Deere & Company Medical Department in Moline, Illinois, U.S.A.

## **OPERATING THE MACHINE**

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### **Mount and Dismount Safely**

Do not step on pedals when mounting or dismounting.

Do not use control levers as hand holds.

Do not use cutting unit lift arm, fender or valve as a step.

Keep platform clean.

Lower cutting units, lock parking brake, stop engine, and remove key before dismounting.

### **Before Operating Mower**

Inspect mower carefully.

Remove foreign objects from machine.

Make sure all hardware is tightened.

Area to be mowed must be free from wire, stones, glass, cans, or other debris to prevent these objects from being thrown.

All guards and shields must be in place and fastened.

Brakes, steering, tires, and lights must operate correctly.

Check for hydraulic oil leaks. Hydraulic hoses and fittings must be tight. Worn or damaged hoses may burst endangering the operator or cause turf damage.



### **Start Engine Safely**

Before starting engine:

Sit on seat.

Set parking brake.

Put all operating controls in NEUTRAL.

Move Mow/Transport lever to TRANSPORT position.



## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### **Avoid Neutral Creep**

The machine may creep forward or backward while in NEUTRAL with engine running and parking brake disengaged.

After engine has started, release parking brake and with the directional speed control pedals in their NEUTRAL position the machine should not move.

If movement is evident, Neutral Return mechanism is adjusted incorrectly. Shut off engine and adjust until machine does not move when directional speed control pedals are in NEUTRAL position. (Refer to Transmission Neutral Adjustment in SERVICE - TRANSMISSION Section.)

### **Prevent Machine Runaway**

Avoid possible injury or death from machinery runaway.

Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals. Machine may start in gear if normal circuitry is bypassed.

NEVER start engine while standing on ground. Start engine only from operator's seat, with transmission in NEUTRAL.

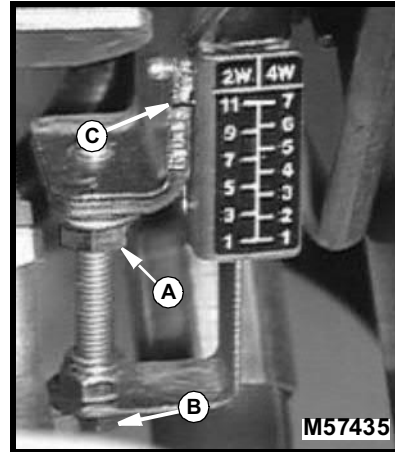


## OPERATING THE MACHINE

### Adjusting Mow Speed (3215A)

**NOTE:** Adjustment is located under seat on right side.

1. Loosen nut (A) and turn bolt (B), so that the mark (C) aligns with a corresponding number for desired maximum mow speed.
2. Tighten nut (A) when desired maximum mow speed is selected.

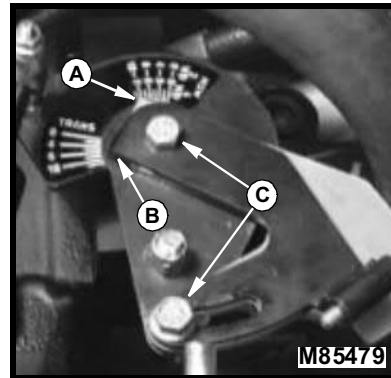


### Adjusting Mow and Transport Speeds (3235A)

**NOTE:** Adjustment is located under seat.

**IMPORTANT:** Moving one adjusting arm may move the other arm. Check both speed selections before tightening hardware.

1. To select maximum mow speed:
  - Loosen two bolts (C) and align bottom arm (A) with corresponding number for desired maximum speed.
  - Tighten bolts when desired maximum speed is selected.
2. To select maximum transport speed:



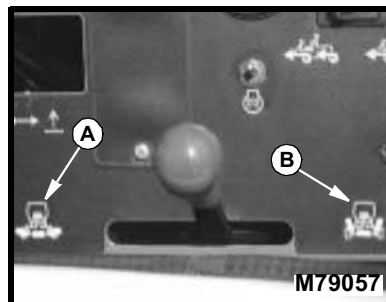
- Loosen two bolts (C) and align top arm (B) with corresponding number for desired maximum speed.
- Tighten bolts when desired maximum speed is selected.

## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### Using Mow/Transport Lever

1. Move lever forward to MOW position (A) to allow cutting units to be engaged when Lift/Lower lever is pushed forward.
2. Move lever rearward to TRANSPORT position (B) to disengage reel drive for cutting units.

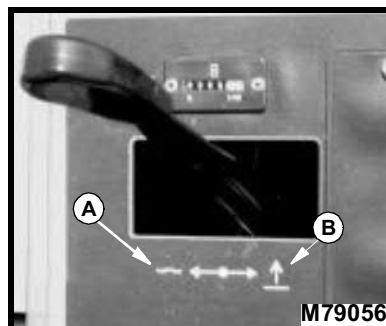


### Using Lift/Lower Lever

**NOTE: Rear cutting units are time-delayed to lower to ground and raise after front cutting units.**

1. With Mow/Transport lever forward in MOW position:

- Move lever forward (A) to lower cutting units to begin mowing operation.
- Move lever rearward (B) to lift cutting units while turning during cutting operation.



2. With Mow/Transport lever in TRANSPORT position, move Lift/Lower lever rearward (B) to raise cutting units for transport.



**Suggest:**

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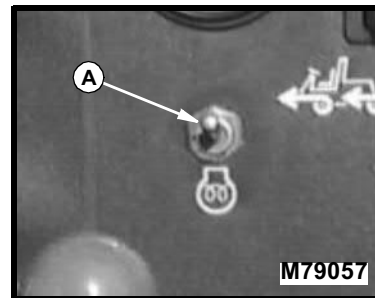
## OPERATING THE MACHINE

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### Using Engine Cold Start Switch

**NOTE:** If air temperature is 4°C (40°F) or colder, it may be necessary to warm engine intake air to assist in engine starting.

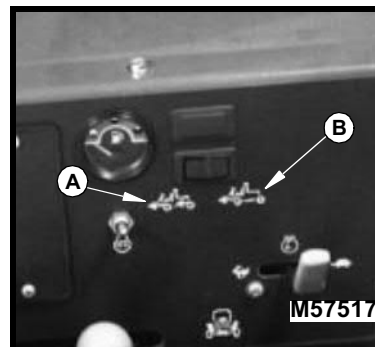
1. Activate air heater by holding cold start switch (A) down for 20 to 30 seconds.



### Using Four Wheel Drive Traction Unit (Optional)

**NOTE:** Ground speed will decrease when 4WD is turned on.

1. To turn 4WD ON, push rocker switch forward (A).
2. To turn 4WD OFF, push rocker switch rearward (B).



**NOTE:** The four-wheel drive system is automatically turned on with the Mow/Transport lever in MOW position. Four-wheel drive is not activated in REVERSE in either MOW or TRANSPORT position. Moving the lever to the TRANSPORT position will disengage the 4WD. It can be turned on in TRANSPORT position using rocker switch.

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