

**14PZ and 14SZ
21-Inch
Walk-Behind
Rotary Mowers**
(Serial No. 010001—)

**John Deere Horicon Works
OMM95319 Issue H2
(This manual replaces OMM95319 L0.)**

LITHO IN U.S.A.
ENGLISH

Introduction

THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.

READ THIS MANUAL to learn how to operate and service your mower. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

RIGHT AND LEFT SIDES are determined by facing the direction of forward travel.

DEALER NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

DATE OF PURCHASE _____

WARRANTY IS EXPLAINED on the warranty certificate you received from your dealer. Please read it.

WRITE MACHINE NUMBERS BELOW. You need these numbers to help you order parts and to help trace the mower if it is stolen. Also record these numbers in a safe place in case the manual is lost.

• A—Mower Model _____

• B—Mower Number _____

• C—Engine Number _____



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Before Use: Check oil level.

First 5 Hours: Change engine oil.

25 Hours:

- Clean air cleaner element.
- Tighten blade bolt.
- Lubricate rear axle bushings.
- Clean & gap spark plug.
- Clean 14SZ belt area.
- Change engine oil.

250 Hours: Have John Deere dealer check flywheel brake liner.

AS NECESSARY

- Adjust 14SZ traction cable.
- Clean fins.
- Adjust throttle cable.
- Adjust slow idle.
- Check, remove, & sharpen blade.
- Balance & install blade.
- Clean fuel cap vents.

PART NUMBERS are subject to change without notice, & may be different outside the U.S.A.

- Air cleaner element: AM116236
- Belt: M77167
- Standard blade: M111453
- Mulching blade: M112972
- Spark plug: Champion RCJ8

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All information, illustrations and specifications in this manual are based on the latest information available at the time of publication. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.

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Safety

READ SAFETY SIGNS & INSTRUCTIONS

! This symbol means **BE ALERT FOR POSSIBLE INJURY**.

DANGER points out immediate hazards which will cause severe injury or death.

WARNING points out hazards or unsafe practices which could cause severe injury or death.

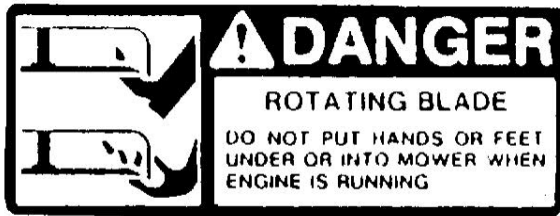
CAUTION points out hazards or unsafe practices which could cause minor injury or machine or property damage.

KEEP SAFETY SIGNS in good condition. You can order safety signs from your John Deere dealer.

READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY. Be thoroughly familiar with controls and proper use of equipment.

ALLOW ONLY RESPONSIBLE ADULTS, who understand instructions, to operate the machine.

IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND any part of this manual, see your John Deere dealer.



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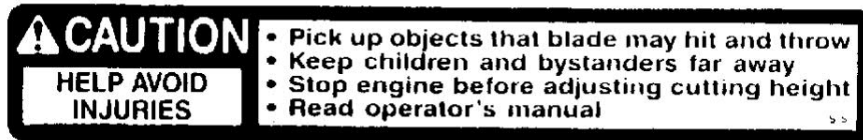
Left Side of Deck



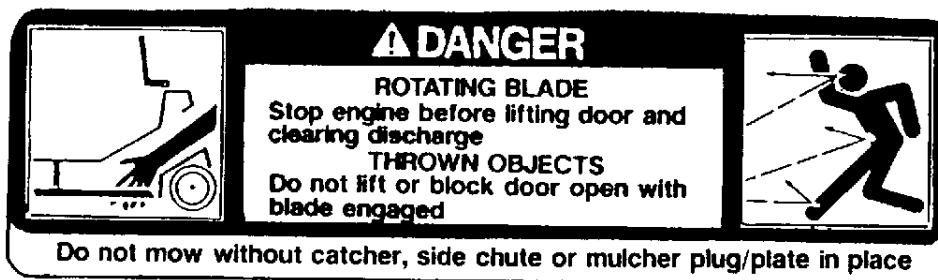
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Right Side of Deck

M73149 -19-23FEB90



Top, Rear of Engine



M73467 -19-02JAN91

Rear of Door

MX,SAFW,A -19-14JUL92



PREPARE BEFORE YOU OPERATE

Check hardware often, especially blade and engine mounting bolts. Keep them tight.

Discharge chute, grass bag, or mulch plug must be in good condition, held in place by door.

To help prevent fires, keep engine clean, especially cooling fins. Replace faulty muffler.

Wear close-fitting clothing, substantial footwear—not barefoot or sandals—and long trousers.

Protect eyes with shield, safety glasses, or goggles.

Protect ears with earplugs or ear muffs.

Focus on mowing. Don't wear headphones.

Be prepared for fire. Keep fire extinguisher and first aid kit handy. Keep medical and fire department emergency numbers near telephone.

MX,SAFW,C -19-14JUL92

PROTECT AGAINST THROWN OBJECTS

Don't mow when people are in mowing area.

Before you mow, clear area of objects that might be thrown by blade: sticks, rocks, bones, wire, etc.

Discharge clippings away from people.

Don't lift or block discharge door open when blade is ENGAGED.



MX,SAFW,D -19-14JUL92

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PROTECT CHILDREN

KEEP CHILDREN IN HOUSE WHILE YOU MOW. If children come into mowing area, STOP MOWER. Move children to a safe place. Also keep other people and pets out of mowing area.

Don't let children or untrained persons operate mower.

Don't leave mower unattended with engine running.



MX,SAFW,E -19-14JUL92

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OPERATE MOWER SAFELY

Don't use mower for anything but mowing.

Mow only dry grass.

WALK when you mow. Don't run. Keep firm hold on handle.

Mow across a slope, not up and down. Don't mow a steep slope where you can't maintain firm footing and control of mower.

Don't tilt mower or pick it up with engine running.

Don't leave mower on a slope. Put it on level surface.

Mow in daylight or good artificial light.

Stay alert for holes and hidden hazards.

Be sure of footing. Use great care when you pull mower backwards with engine running.

Be especially careful when you change direction on slope.

If mower starts to vibrate abnormally, STOP engine and fix problem. Vibration is usually a sign of trouble.

STOP engine before you leave, clean, or inspect mower.

Let engine cool and clean debris from mower before you store it indoors.

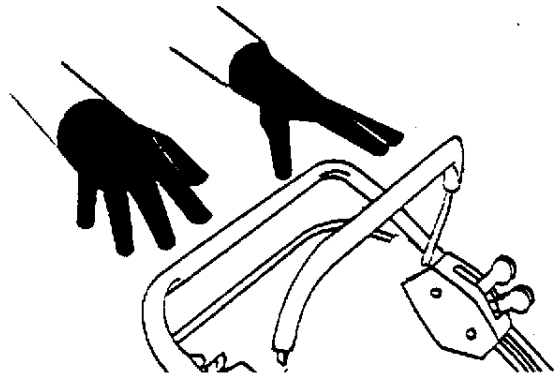
If you hit an object, stop mower. Fix damage before you operate.

MX,SAFW,F -19-14JUL92

EMERGENCY STOP

Release lever and handle:

- Mower will stop.
- Blade will stop.
- Engine will stop.



MX,SAFW,G -19-14JUL92

MT3293 -UN-18SEP90



AVOID INJURY FROM MOVING PARTS

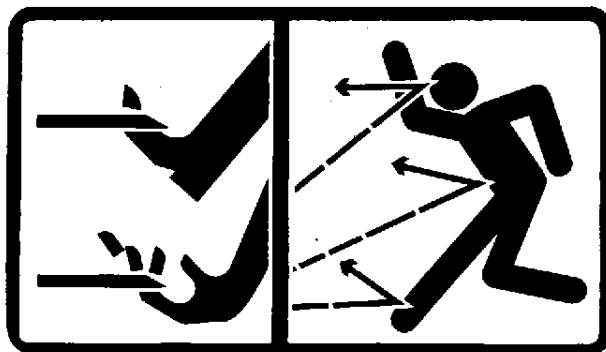
Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from mower deck and discharge chute when blade is turning.

Don't make adjustments while engine is running, unless procedure is approved. STOP ENGINE, then adjust.

Stop mower blade:

- Before you move between jobs.
- Before you cross gravel surface.
- When you are not mowing.

STOP engine before you lift discharge door.



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MX,SAFW,J -19-14JUL92

SERVICE MOWER SAFELY

Don't modify mower unless changes are approved by John Deere. Don't change governor setting or overspeed engine.

Before you service mower:

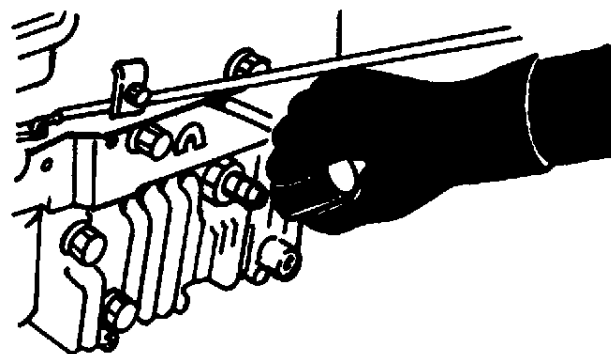
- Put it on level surface
- STOP engine. Let it cool.
- Disconnect spark plug wire. Keep wire away from plug to help prevent accidental starting.

Wear gloves when you service blade.

Keep parts in good condition, fastened in place.

Replace worn or damaged parts immediately.

If fuel tank has to be drained, do it outdoors.



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MX,SAFW,K -19-14JUL92

Operating Engine & Mower Controls

CONTROLS



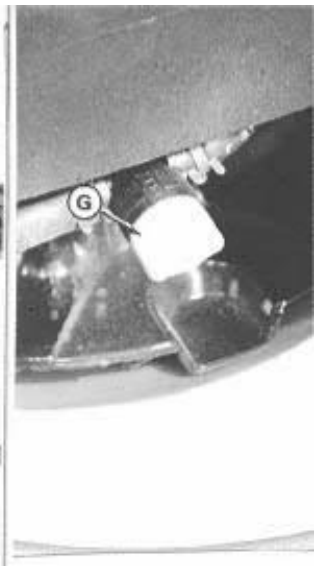
A—Starter Handle
B—Blade Control Lever

C—14SZ Traction Clutch
Lever



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-UN-06FEB92

D—14SZ Gear Shift Lever
E—Throttle Lever



M73646
-UN-06FEB92

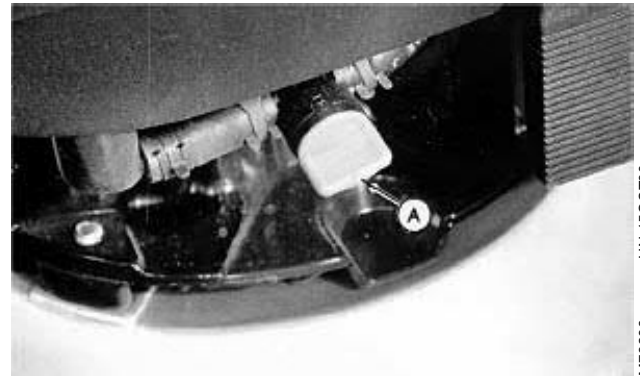
F—Cutting Height Lever
G—Fuel Shutoff Knob—Open

MX,OPFW,A -19-14JUL92

START ENGINE

⚠ CAUTION: Engine exhaust fumes can cause sickness or death. Run engine only in ventilated area. If you run engine in enclosed area, remove exhaust with exhaust pipe extension, or open doors to bring in outside air.

1. Turn fuel shutoff knob to OPEN position (A):



M73296
-UN-15OCT90

MX,OPFW,B -19-14JUL92

IMPORTANT: To help prevent damage to starter and band brake, do not start engine:

- When blade is under load, such as, in heavy grass OR
- When blade control lever (C) is RELEASED.

2. 14SZ: RELEASE traction drive lever (A).
3. Move throttle lever (B):
 - COLD ENGINE: Move lever to CHOKE position shown.
 - WARM ENGINE: Move lever to FAST position (rabbit).
4. Hold lever (C) against handle.

⚠ CAUTION: BE ALERT: WHEN ENGINE IS RUNNING, BLADE IS TURNING. Keep hands, feet and clothing away from blade.

5. Pull starter handle (D) until you feel resistance. Then pull fast and steady.

6. When engine starts:
 - Return rope slowly until handle is in bracket.
 - Pull back throttle lever from CHOKE position.

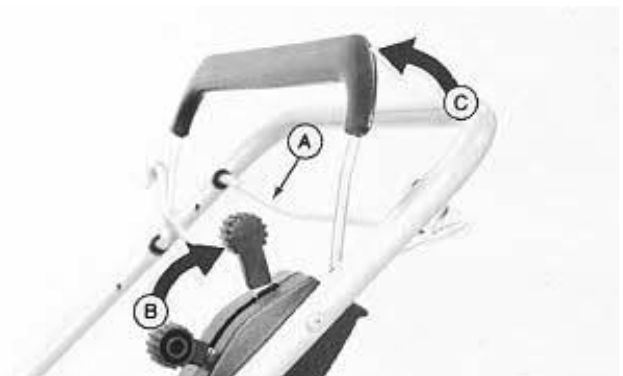


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MX,OPFW,C -19-14JUL92

STOP ENGINE

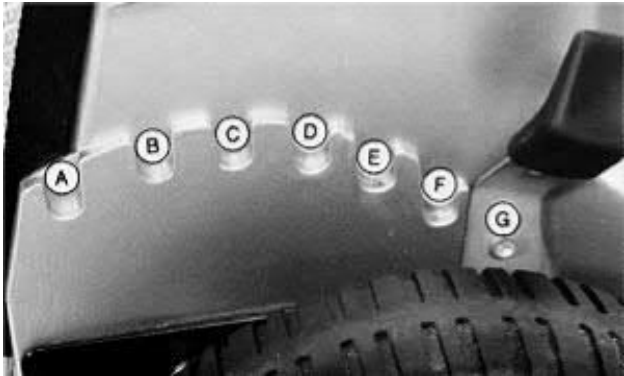
1. 14SZ: RELEASE traction drive lever (A).
2. Pull throttle lever (B) to SLOW (turtle) position shown.
3. RELEASE blade control lever (C).
4. Engine and blade must stop within 3 seconds. If not, see your John Deere dealer.
5. Turn fuel shutoff knob to CLOSED position.



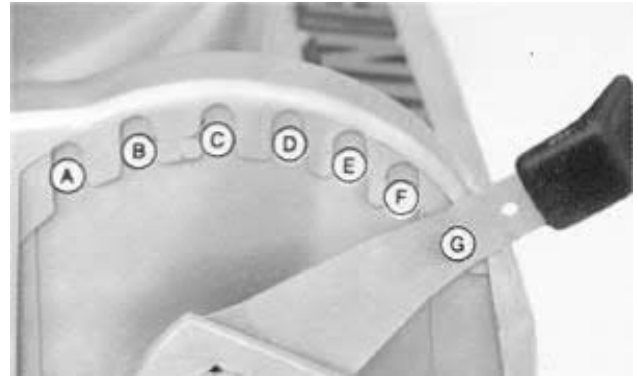
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MX,OPFW,D -19-14JUL92

ADJUST CUTTING HEIGHT



Right Rear



Right Front (wheel removed)

A—1/2 in. (13 mm)
B—1 in. (25 mm)

C—1-1/2 in. (38 mm)
D—2 in. (50 mm)

E—2-1/2 in. (64 mm)
F—3 in. (75 mm)

G—3-1/2 in. (90 mm)

CAUTION: Before you adjust cutting height, STOP ENGINE.

To help move rear wheel levers:

1. Lift lower handlebar slightly with one hand to take some weight off wheel.
2. Move lever to desired position with other hand.

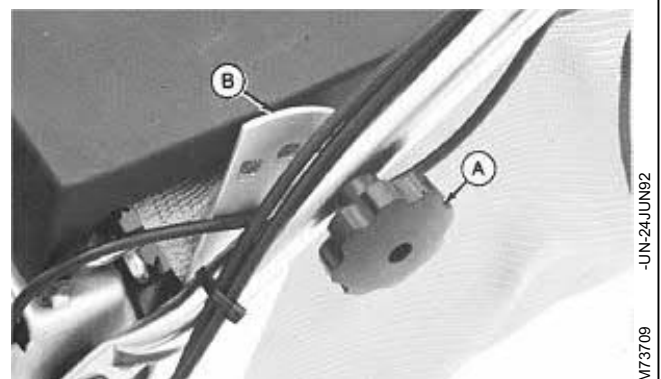
IMPORTANT: Adjust all levers to same height except for **LOWEST** cutting height (A):

- Put front wheel levers in 1/2-in. (13-mm) notch: first rear notch.
- Put rear wheel levers in 1-in. (25-mm) notch: second rear notch.

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ADJUST HANDLE HEIGHT

1. Remove knob (A) and bolt from each side.
2. Move handle to desired height.
3. Line up square hole in bracket (B) with hole in handle.
4. Install bolt through holes. Install knob.
5. Repeat steps 2—4 on other side.



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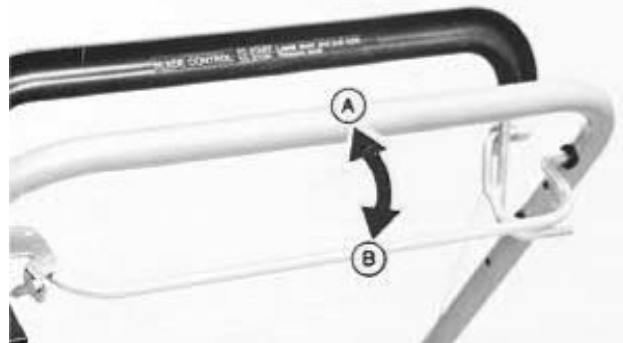
14SZ FORWARD TRAVEL

TO TRAVEL FORWARD: Pull and hold traction clutch lever (B) against handle (A).

TO STOP FORWARD TRAVEL: Release lever (B).

Release lever before you turn.

NOTE: Rear wheels will make a clicking noise when you push mower forward. This means drivetrain is operating correctly.



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14SZ TRAVEL SPEEDS

Travel speeds:

—1st Gear: 2 mph (3.2 kph)

—2nd Gear: 3 mph (5 kph)

To change travel speeds:

1. STOP FORWARD TRAVEL. See 14SZ FORWARD TRAVEL in this section.

2. Move gear lever (A) to desired position:

—1st Gear: Move lever to rear notch as shown.

—2nd Gear: Move lever to forward notch.

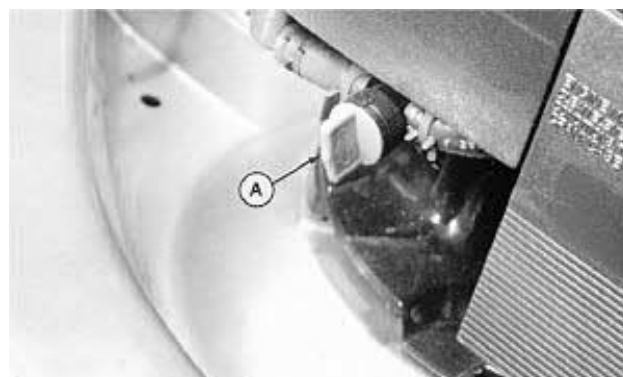
3. ENGAGE traction clutch lever.



MX.OPFW,H -19-14JUL92

TRANSPORT MOWER

IMPORTANT: Turn fuel shutoff knob to CLOSED position (A) before you transport mower. Carburetor float may vibrate during transport and let fuel flow into engine: Engine will then be hard to start.



MX.OPFW,I -19-14JUL92

Mowing, Bagging, & Mulching

MOWING TIPS

For details about lawn care, see your John Deere dealer for free booklet, "Common Questions," DKC366.

When you mow an area for the first time, travel SLOW and cut HIGH so you can:

- Learn the terrain.
- Learn the best mowing pattern.
- Help prevent hitting objects hidden in the grass.

Mow grass only when it is dry: Wet grass may plug mower and leave a trail of grass clumps.

Mow grass often: Short grass clippings will decay quickly.

Mow at full throttle for best performance.

Use travel speed that fits conditions:

- Travel SLOW when you mow thick, tall grass.
- FAST travel may produce stripes or uneven cut: slow down.
- Travel at MODERATE speed when you mow a thin stand of grass.

Mow often enough so you cut only top 1/3 of grass in one mowing. Cutting grass too short may kill grass and let weeds grow easily.

Before you make a turn, slow down. Short, fast turns may scuff the ground and pull grass out by roots.

Use the right blade. See your John Deere dealer for kind of blade that would best fit your mowing conditions.

Aerate lawn to help stimulate soil organisms and root growth.

Trimming tips:

- Turn to left around trees, bushes, etc.
- Drive slowly. Avoid hitting trees, bushes, etc.
- If ground slopes up to a tree or bush, you may have to approach the tree or bush straight-on to avoid scalping.

To avoid scalping:

- Pay attention to the way you drive: you can eliminate scalping.
- If mower scalps easily, cutting height may be too low for ground conditions—especially on lawns with many small mounds and ridges.
- Mow over ridges and through shallow ditches straight-on, not at an angle.

Keep blade sharp: Dull blade will tear grass; tips of grass will then turn brown.

Check lawn regularly for uneven cut. If cut is uneven:

- LOOK: Mower may not be level. Adjust cutting height levers.
- Slow down before you make a turn.
- Sharpen blades often.

Use thatcher (available from John Deere dealer) in late spring or summer to pull up dead grass and aerate ground.

After Mowing

1. STOP engine. Let it cool—to prevent fire when you store mower.
2. CLOSE fuel shutoff valve.
3. Remove and shake bag to remove all clippings—to help prevent deterioration of bag and fire.
4. Clean top of deck, engine, and chute with brush or compressed air—to help prevent buildup and fire.
5. Turn mower on side with air cleaner up. Remove mulch plug. Spray under deck with water under pressure to remove corrosive lawn chemicals and buildup.
6. Install bag. Put mower in safe storage.



Suggest:

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first, and then click the above link

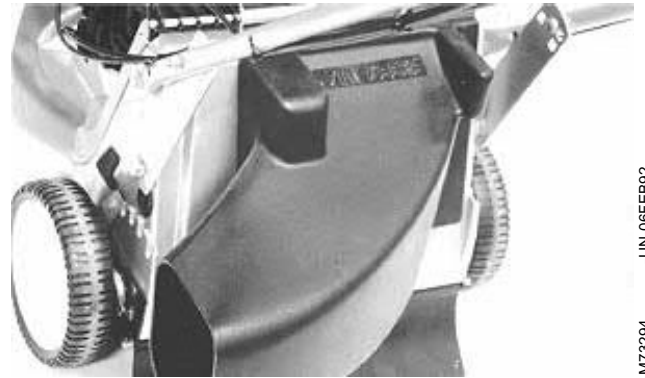
to download the complete manual.

Thank you so much for reading

DISCHARGE CHUTE—OPTIONAL

⚠ CAUTION: Do not operate mower unless grass bag, chute, or mulch plug (optional) is held in place by door.

1. Stop engine. Lift and hold door.
2. Remove grass bag.
3. Install chute. Lower door to hold chute in place.



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BAGGING TIPS

For best performance, bagger needs good airflow. To help increase airflow:

- Keep underside of deck and chute clean.
- Cut only top 1/3 of grass.
- Mow at full throttle.
- Clean bag often with water from garden hose from outside to inside of bag. Let bag dry before use.

IMPORTANT: Do not leave clippings in bag:

- Moisture may damage bag.
- Damp clippings are fire hazard.

Check clippings in bag often. When bag is full:

- Clippings may blow to side or leave a trail.
- Top of bag will deflate.

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