

Sabre Garden Tractors 2048HV, 2254HV, and 2554HV

Serial No. (010,001-)



OPERATOR'S MANUAL

John Deere
Worldwide Commercial And
Consumer Equipment Division
OMM136080 D8

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

INTRODUCTION

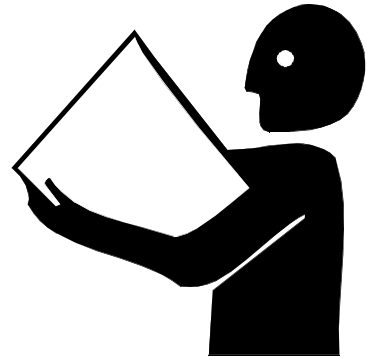
THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.

Read this manual 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 (A), it indicates the part it is pointing to is hidden.

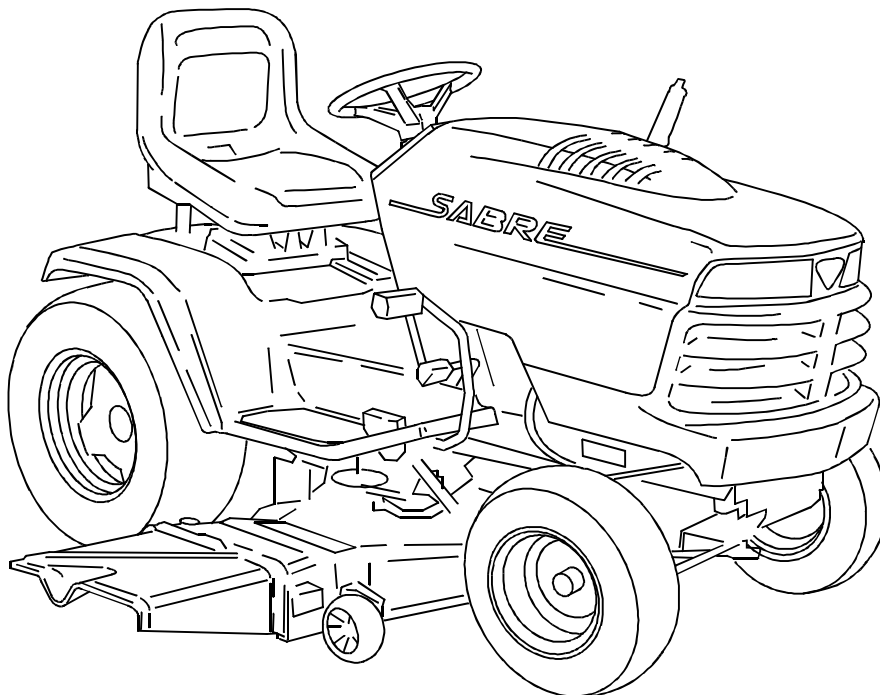
Record identification numbers below. Be sure to record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine if it is stolen. You also need to give these numbers to your dealer when you order parts.

DATE OF PURCHASE: _____

DEALER NAME: _____

DEALER PHONE: _____

Sabre® is a registered trademark of Deere & Company



INTRODUCTION

Located on Left Rear of Tractor

Vehicle Serial Number:

□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
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M88560

Located on Engine

Briggs & Stratton Engine Information

Model

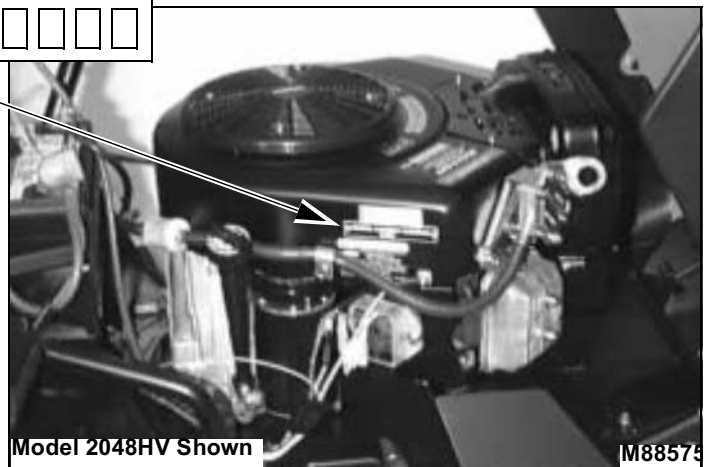
Type

Code

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Model 2048HV Shown

M88575

Located on Engine

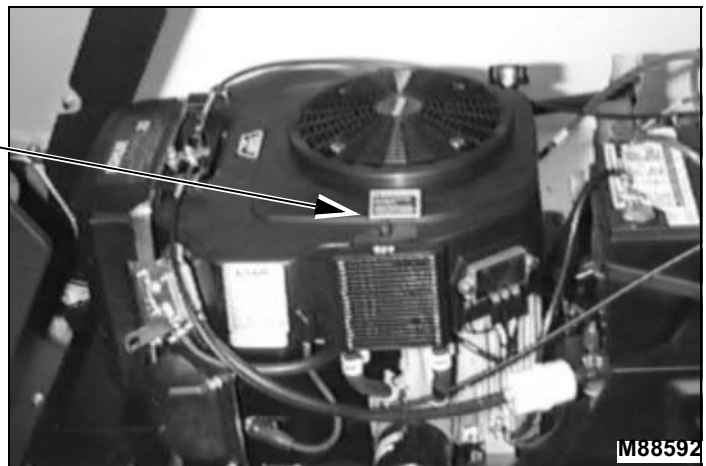
Kohler Engine Information

Model

Spec

□	□	□	□	□
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M88592

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John Deere Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division

Horicon, WI

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Previous Editions

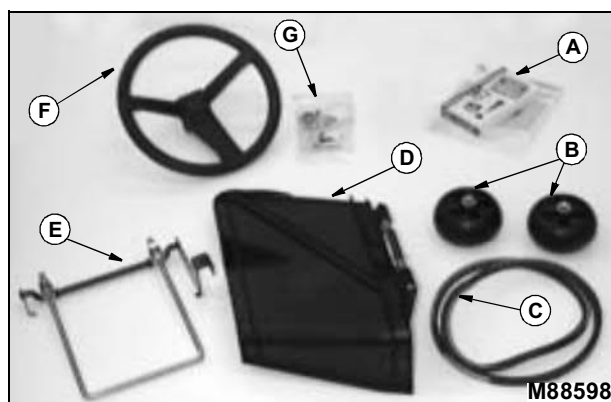
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ASSEMBLY

Box of Parts

NOTE: If you are missing any parts see the **Replacement Parts** section for additional service part numbers.

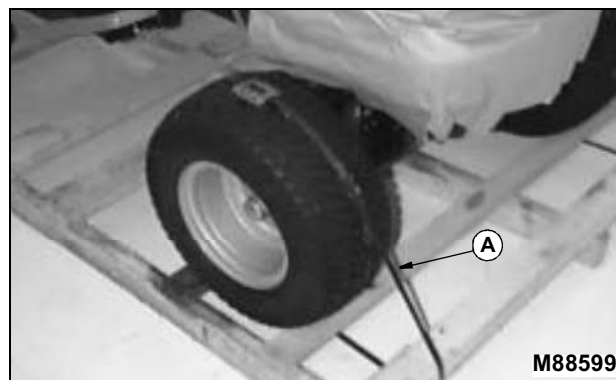
A	Sabre Operator's Manual	M132729
	Engine Owner's Manual:	
	Model 2048HV	M131764
	Model 2554HV	M132645
	Safety Video	M134321
B	Mower Gage Wheels (2) with:	M111489
	Bolts (2)	19M7274
	Nuts (2)	14M7396
	Bushings (2)	M111491
	Washers (2)	M110698
C	Mower Drive Belt	M110312
D	Mower Discharge Chute with:	M123859
	Chute Pin	M112899
	Chute Spring	M83410
	Chute Hinge	M83411
E	Front Lift Rod Assembly:	
	Rod	M132735
	Welded Pivot	AM119811
	Clevis (2)	M113014
	Spacers (2)	M110875
	Lock Nuts (2)	M85540
	Jam Nuts (2)	14M7275
F	Steering Wheel	AM121918
G	Bag of Hardware	H63686
	• 1 - Shoulder bolt-Steering Wheel	M87404
	• 1 - Nut- Steering Wheel	M63662
	• 1 - Washer- Steering Wheel	24H1721
	• 2 - M8x16 Bolts- Battery	19M7775
	• 2 - M8x16 Nut- Battery	14M7303
	• 2 - M8x20 Bolts-Chute	03M7184
	• 2 - M8x20 Nuts-Chute	14M7464
	• 2 - Keys	M127340



Remove Packaging

Remove plastic and paper.

Remove wire bands (A) from front and rear tires.



ASSEMBLY

Remove Mower Deck from Side of Crate

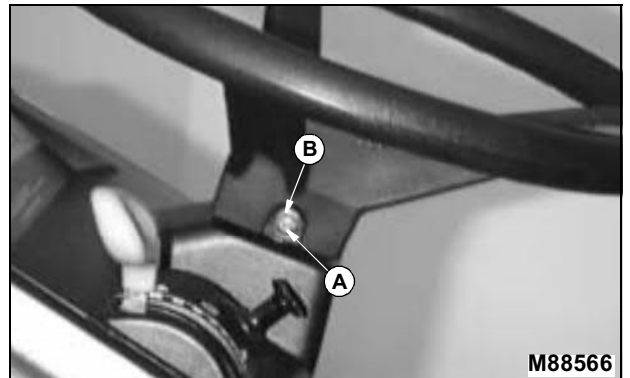
CAUTION: •Mower Deck is heavy. To avoid injury, use a hoist or safe lifting device when removing mower deck from crate.
•Mower Blades are sharp. Always wear gloves when handling mower deck.

1. Remove two bolts (A) from crate.
2. Using a hoist or a safe lifting device, remove mower deck from crate.



Install Steering Wheel

1. Put front wheels in the straight forward position.
2. Lubricate the steering shaft.
3. Install steering wheel with Sabre logo in the upright position.
4. Install shoulder bolt (A). Drive bolt in until head of bolt contacts steering wheel.
5. Install washer and nut (B).
6. Tighten lock nut until it is snug. Do not tighten lock nut to pull washer or head of bolt into steering wheel.



Remove Tractor from Crate

1. Pull out free-wheeling lever (A).
2. Carefully push tractor off crate.
3. Lock park brake.
4. Push free-wheeling lever (A) IN before operating tractor.



ASSEMBLY

Connect and Check Battery

CAUTION: Prevent Battery Explosions:

- Keep sparks, lighted matches, and open flame away from the top of battery. Battery gas can explode.
- Never check battery charge by placing a metal object across the posts. Use a volt-meter or hydrometer.
- Do not charge a frozen battery; it may explode. Warm battery to 16 degrees C (60 degrees F)



IMPORTANT: This battery comes fully charged. If the mower is not used by the Service Expiration Date indicated on the battery, charge the battery. (See Charging the Battery in the Service - Electrical section.)

NOTE: Do not remove the **BLACK** negative (-) protective cap at this time.

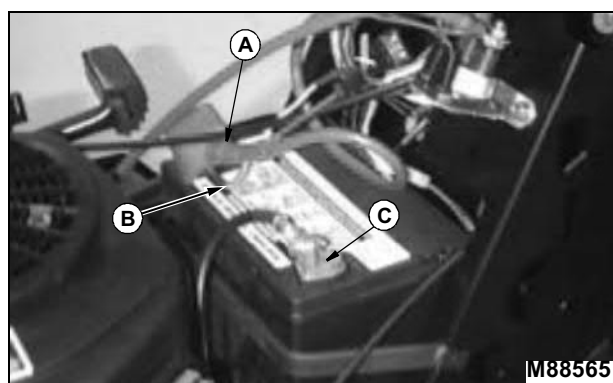
1. Remove and discard the RED positive (+) protective cap from the positive (+) battery terminal.

CAUTION: DO NOT attempt to open, add fluid or service battery. Any attempt to do so will void warranty and lead to possible injury.

2. Connect blue harness wire (B) and RED positive (+) cable (A) to battery. Apply petroleum jelly or silicone spray to terminal to prevent corrosion. Make sure connection is tight. Install the red terminal cover.

3. Remove and discard the BLACK (-) protective cap from the negative battery terminal.

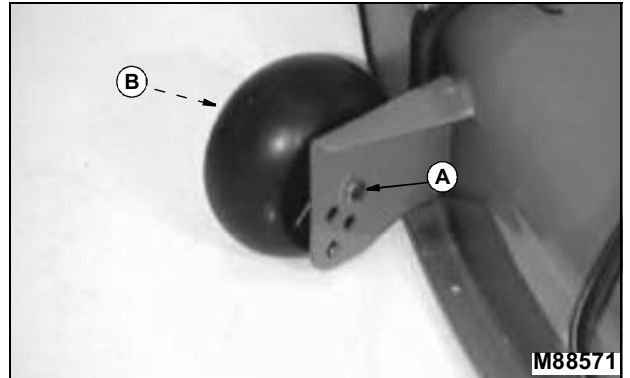
4. Connect black negative (-) cable (C) to battery. Apply petroleum jelly or silicone spray to terminal to prevent corrosion. Make sure connection is tight.



ASSEMBLY

Install Rear Gage Wheels on Mower Deck

1. Install rear gage wheels, one on each side, using bolt (A) and tighten with nut (B).
2. Adjust gage wheels after mower deck is installed. (See Adjust Mower Gage Wheels in Operating the Mower section.)



Install Mower Deck on Tractor



CAUTION: Avoid injury, before installing mower on machine: **STOP** engine. Remove key. Wait for all moving parts to **STOP**.

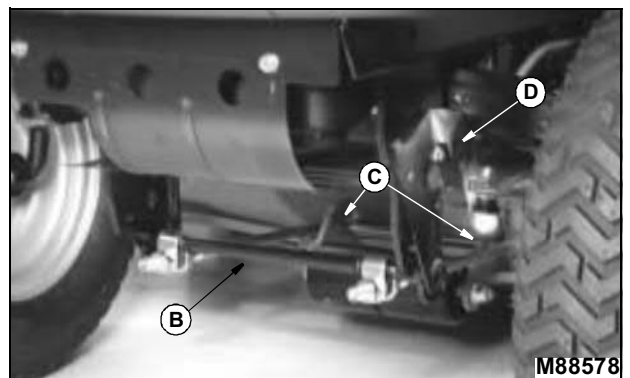
Avoid injury from loaded spring: **LOCK** lift lever before installing mower.

Avoid injury from spring loaded rod: Make sure you have a tight grip on drive belt tension rod when installing.

1. STOP engine, LOCK park brake, push PTO switch down to DISENGAGE, turn key to the OFF position, and remove key.
2. Raise mower lift lever to TRANSPORT (upper) position.
3. Slide mower under the tractor.
4. Put wood blocks under each side of mower.
5. Put mower lift lever in the MOWING (lower) position.
6. Install rear draft arms, one on each side of tractor, to mower lift brackets with spring loaded J-pins (A).

Picture Note: 54-Inch Deck Shown

7. Put front lift rod assembly (B) in slotted brackets (C) on mower deck and install the front lift rod assembly to the front of the tractor frame.
8. Push up on lever (D) and lock into tractor frame.



ASSEMBLY

9. Put mower drive belt (E) on engine drive sheave.

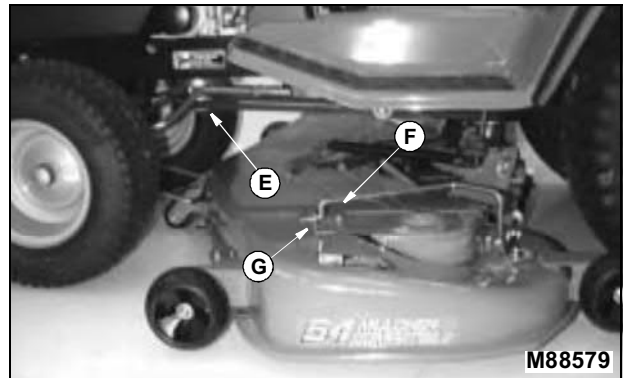
Picture Note: 54-Inch Deck Shown

10. Push drive belt tension rod (F) into bracket (G).

11. Raise mower lift lever to TRANSPORT (upper) position.

12. Remove wood blocks from both sides of mower.

13. Level mower. (See Leveling Mower in Operating the Mower section.)



Install Mower Discharge Chute



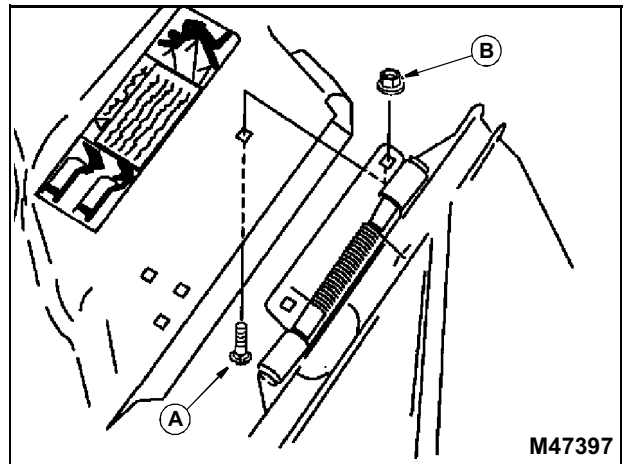
CAUTION: To avoid injury:-NEVER operate mower without chute in place.

-Hold chute firmly on mower deck when installing, mower discharge chute is spring loaded.

-After installing chute on deck check to make sure hinge on chute is working properly by opening chute and releasing it. Chute MUST spring back to the LOWERED position.

1. Install mower discharge chute to mower deck with two M8 x 20 bolts (A) and lock nuts (B).

2. Tighten nuts to 20 N•m (15 ft-lb).



Break-In Electric PTO Clutch

1. Start engine and push throttle lever (A) up to full throttle (🐿) position.

2. With no load on mower, ENGAGE PTO (B) and allow mower to run for 10 seconds.

3. DISENGAGE PTO and wait 10 seconds.

4. Repeat Step 2 for 12-15 cycles.

5. PTO clutch is now properly burnished.



ASSEMBLY

Check Machine Safety System

Perform safety system check to make sure the electronic safety interlock circuit is functioning properly. Perform all six Tests. (See Testing Safety System in the Operating section)

Checking Tire Pressure

⚠ CAUTION: Explosive separation of a tire and rim parts can cause serious injury or death:

- Do not attempt to mount a tire without the proper equipment and experience to perform the job.
- Always maintain the correct tire pressure. Do not inflate the tires above the recommended pressure. Never weld or heat a wheel and tire assembly. The heat can cause an increase in air pressure resulting in a tire explosion. Welding can structurally weaken or deform the wheel.
- When inflating tires, use a clip-on chuck and extension hose long enough to allow you to stand to one side and NOT in front of or over the tire assembly.
- Check tires for low pressure, cuts, bubbles, damaged rims or missing lug bolts and nuts.



1. Check tires for damage.
2. Check tire pressure with an accurate gauge.
3. Add or remove air, if necessary:

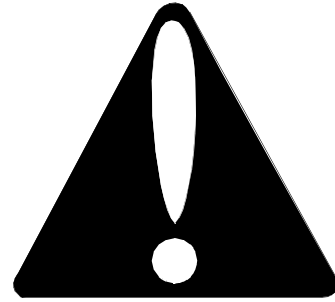
Tire Size	Pressure
Model 2048HV - Front: 16 x 6.5	97 kPa (14 psi)
Models 2254HV and 2554HV - Front: 16 x 7.5	83 kPa (12 psi)
Model 2048HV - Rear: 23 x 10.5	69 kPa (10 psi)
Models 2254HV and 2554HV - Rear: 24 x 12	69 kPa (10 psi)

SAFETY SIGNS

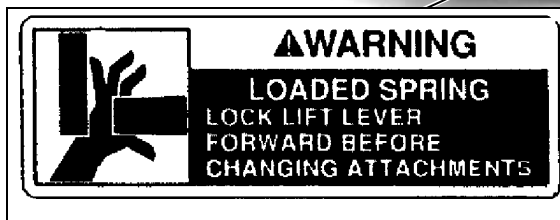
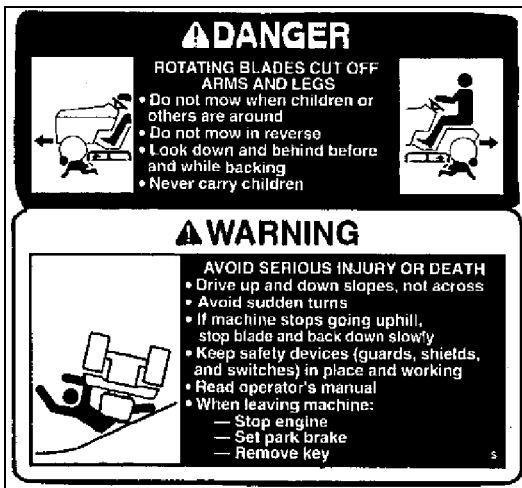
Safety-Alert Symbol

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

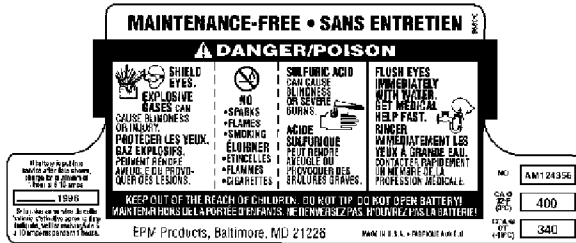


One On Each Side Of Tractor Frame

M88596

SAFETY SIGNS

Safety Label on Battery

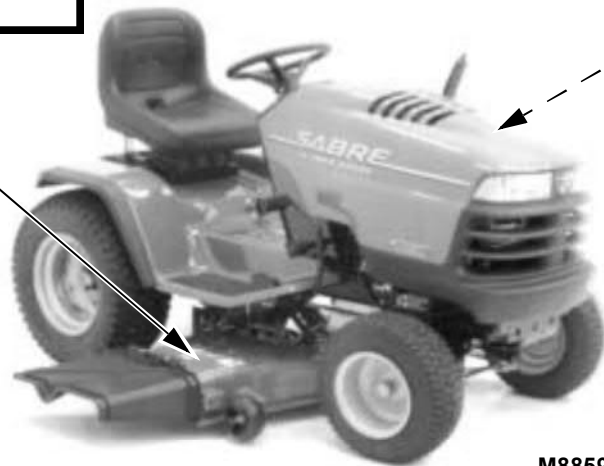


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Safety Labels on Mowing Deck



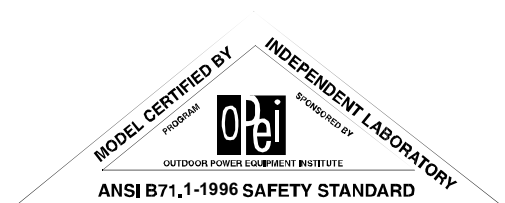
Left-Hand Side Of Deck



M88596

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-71.1-1996, "Safety Specifications" for Power Lawn Mowers, Lawn and Garden Tractors, and Lawn Tractors.





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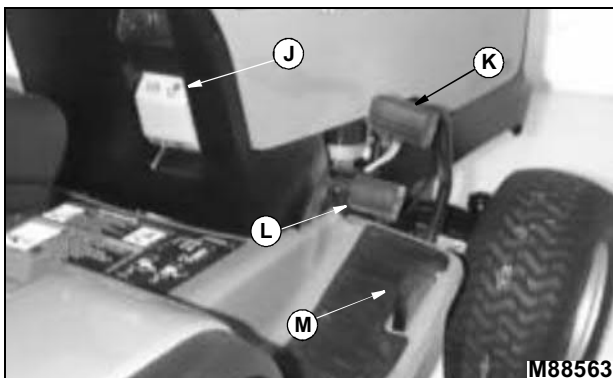
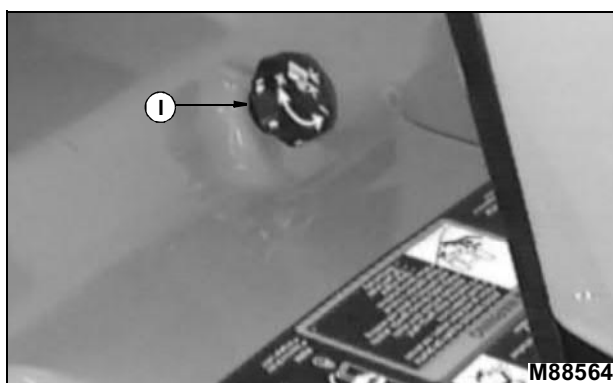
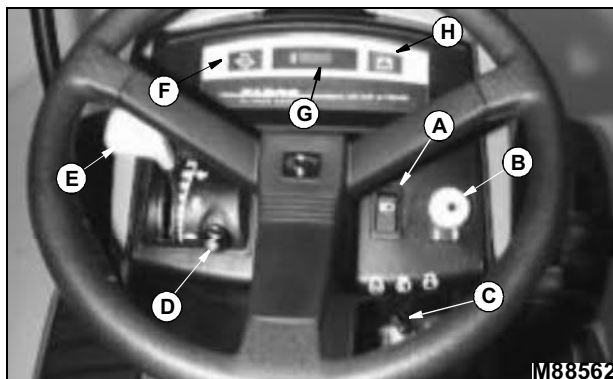
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CONTROLS

Controls

- A - Light Switch
- B - PTO Switch
- C - Key Switch
- D - Choke Knob
- E - Throttle Lever
- F - Engine Oil Pressure Light
- G - Hour Meter
- H - Battery Discharge Light
- I - Cut Height Adjustment Lever
- J - Park Brake Lever
- K - Brake Pedal
- L - Forward Travel Pedal
- M - Reverse Travel Pedal
- N - Mower Deck Lift Lever



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