

**JA65
21-Inch Walk-Behind
Rotary Mower**

(Serial No. 010001 –)



**OPERATOR'S
MANUAL**

**John Deere
Worldwide Commercial and
Consumer Equipment Division
OMMGC00128 G7**

North American Version
Litho in U.S.A
English

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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.



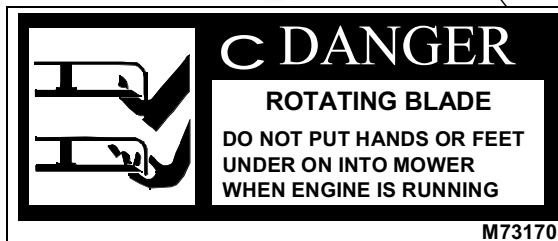
Machine Safety Labels



M73171



M88849



M73170



SAFETY SIGNS

CAUTION

- BAG IS SUBJECT TO WEAR AND DETERIORATION
- CHECK BAG FREQUENTLY. REPLACE WHEN NECESSARY
- USE JOHN DEERE BAG OR EQUIVALENT TO COMPLY WITH SAFETY SPECIFICATIONS **M73172**



M88849

	C DANGER ROTATING BLADE Stop engine before lifting door and clearing discharge THROWN OBJECTS Do not lift or block door open with blade engaged	
Do not mow without catcher, side chute or mulcher plug/plate in place		

M73467

SAFETY SIGNS

C CAUTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pick up objects that blade may hit and throw• Keep children and bystanders far away• Stop engine before adjusting cutting height• Read operator's manual	M73149



M88849

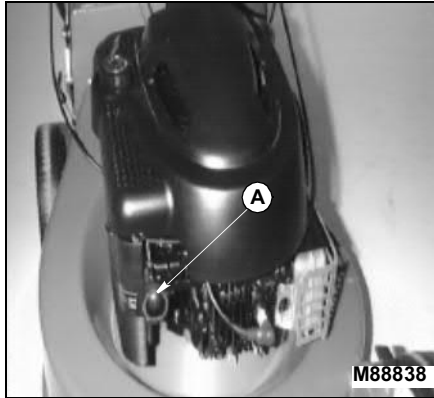
Certification Label

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.



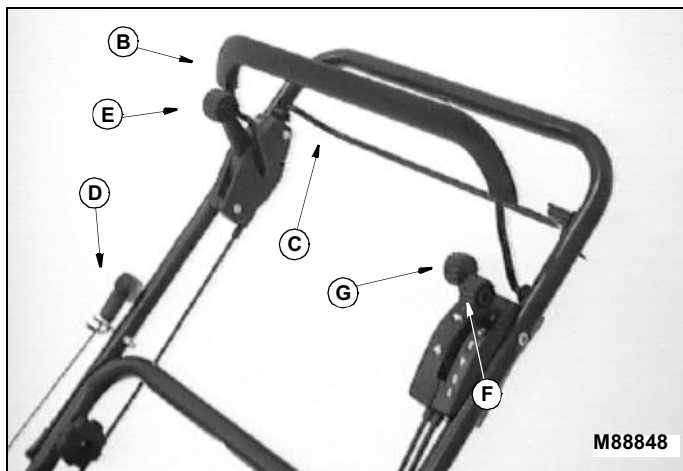
CONTROLS

Engine Controls



A - Primer Bulb.....Prime to start engine

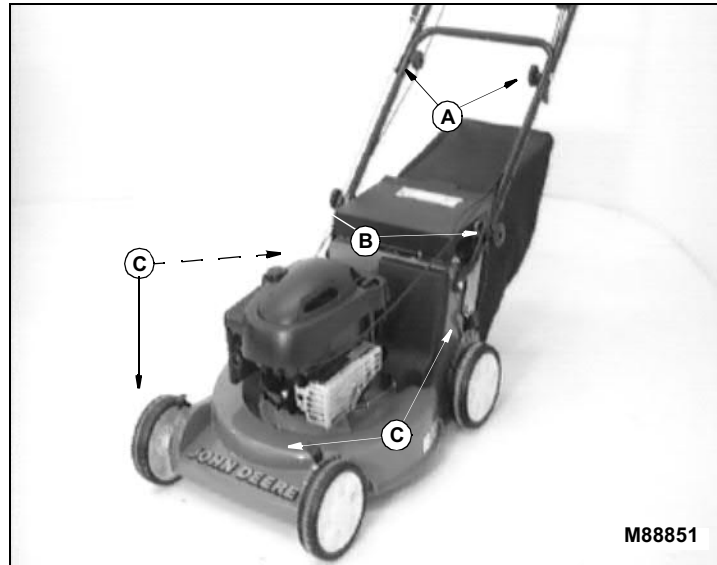
Handle Controls



B - Blade Lockout and Stop Lever..... Stops blades
C - Traction Clutch Lever..... Engages traction
D - Starter HandleStarts engine
E - Blade Engagement Lever Starts blades
F - Gear Shift LeverChanges gears
G - Throttle Lever Controls engine speed

CONTROLS

Handle and Cutting Height Controls



- A - Fold Handle Knobs Folds handle
- B - Handle Height Knob Adjusts handle height
- C - Cutting Height Levers Adjusts cutting height

OPERATING

SAFETY

Operate Safely



- Inspect machine before you operate. Be sure hardware is tight. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Be sure proper guards, plates, grass catcher, or other safety protective devices 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 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 sure of footing. Be especially careful when you pull machine backwards with the engine running.
- Mow across a hill - not up and down. Be careful when you change direction on a slope. Do Not mow excessively steep slopes.
- DO NOT mow wet grass. Reduced traction could cause you to slip.
- Keep a firm hold on the machine handle.
- DO NOT wear radio or music headphones while operating the machine. Safe operation requires your full attention.
- DO NOT operate mower if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

OPERATING

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 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.

HELP PREVENT SERIOUS OR FATAL ACCIDENTS:

- Be alert at all times, people especially children can move quickly into the area before you know it.
- Stop the blade when crossing gravel drives, walks, or roads.
- Shut off blades when you are not mowing.
- Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from rotating blades.

Wear Appropriate Clothing



- Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate for the job.
- Do Not operate the equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear.
- Loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing, wear a suitable protective device such as earplugs.

OPERATING

ADJUSTMENTS

Adjusting Cutting Height

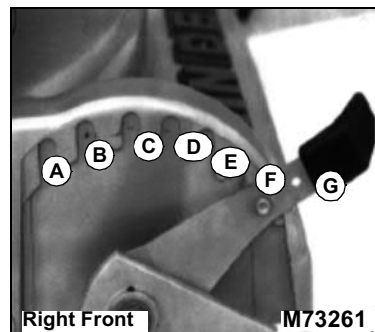
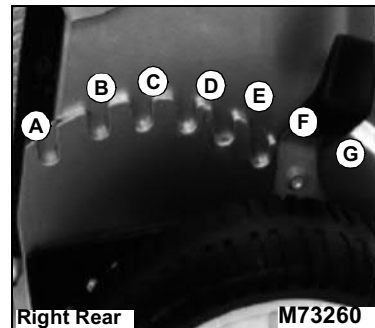
C CAUTION: Help prevent personal injury. Before adjusting mower cutting height:
• STOP ENGINE.

IMPORTANT: Adjust all levers to same height except for **LOWEST** cutting height (A):
• Put front wheel levers in 13 mm (1/2-in.) notch: **First** rear notch.
• Put rear wheel levers in 25 mm (1-in.) notch: **Second** rear notch.

To help move rear wheel levers:

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

Key	Cutting Height Adjustments In mm (Inches)
(A)	13 mm (1/2-in.)
(B)	25 mm (1-in.)
(C)	38 mm (1-1/2-in.)
(D)	50 mm (2-in.)
(E)	64 mm (2-1/2-in.)
(F)	75 mm (3-in.)
(G)	90 mm (3-1/2-in.)





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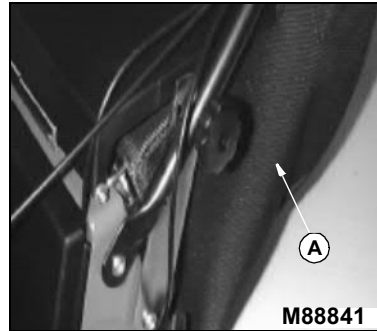
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OPERATING

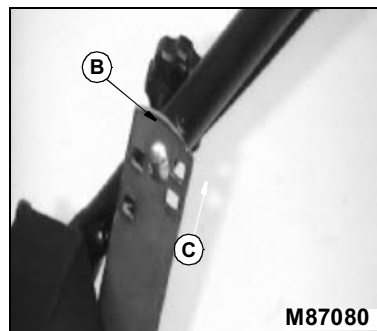
Adjusting Handle Height

1. Remove knob (A) and bolt from each side.
2. Move handle to desired height.



NOTE: Rear grass bag removed to illustrate photo clarity.

3. Move bracket (B) so a square hole in the bracket lines up with a handle hole.
4. Install carriage bolt (C) through same square hole on each side.
5. Install and tighten knobs.



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