

**LX172, LX173, LX176,
LX178, and LX188
Lawn Tractors**

**LX172, LX176, LX178, and LX188
(Serial No. 110001 –)
LX173 (Serial No. 150001 –)**

**OPERATOR'S
MANUAL**

**John Deere
Lawn & Grounds Care Division
OMM134134 H7**

**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.

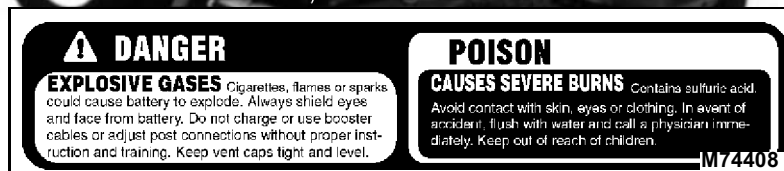
On your machine safety labels, the words DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION are used with this safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards. In this manual, the word CAUTION and this symbol call attention to safety messages.



Machine Safety Labels



One on each side of tractor frame.




Battery Cap

M72170


SAFETY SIGNS

⚠ DANGER

ROTATING BLADES CUT OFF ARMS AND LEGS




- Do not mow when children or others are around
- Do not mow in reverse
- Look down and behind before and while backing
- Never carry children



⚠ WARNING

AVOID SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH



- Drive up and down slopes, not across
- Avoid sudden turns
- If machine stops going uphill, stop blade and back down slowly
- Keep safety devices (guards, shields, and switches) in place and working
- Read operator's manual
- When leaving machine:
 - Stop engine
 - Set park brake
 - Remove key

M47707



⚠ DANGER


ROTATING BLADE

DO NOT PUT HANDS OR FEET UNDER OR INTO MOWER WHEN ENGINE IS RUNNING

M38614

Left-Hand Side of Deck





⚠ DANGER


ROTATING BLADE

DO NOT PUT HANDS OR FEET UNDER OR INTO MOWER WHEN ENGINE IS RUNNING

THROWN OBJECTS

BEFORE MOWING, CLEAR AREA OF OBJECTS THAT MAY BE THROWN BY BLADE

DO NOT OPERATE MOWER WITHOUT DISCHARGE CHUTE OR ENTIRE GRASS CATCHER IN PLACE



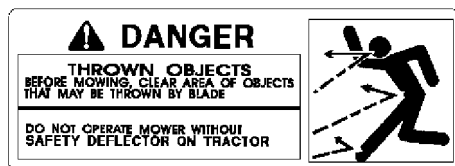
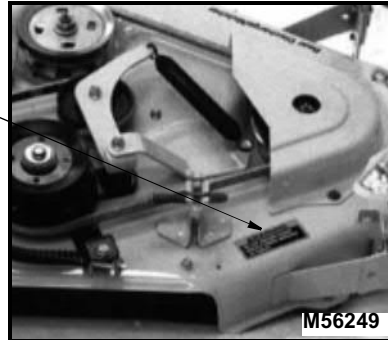
M47637

SAFETY SIGNS

Machine Safety Labels (44-Inch Mower)



M47873



M47874



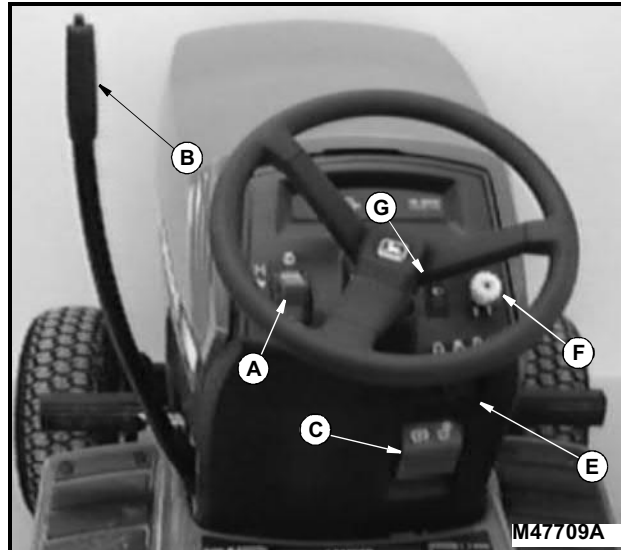
Certification Label

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

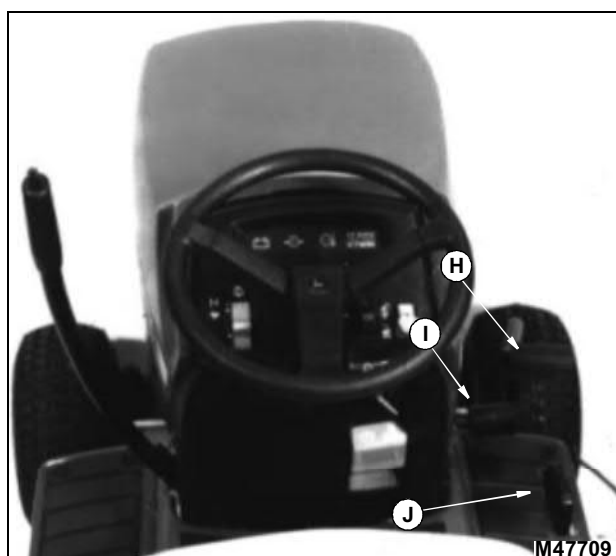


- A - Throttle Lever Controls engine speed
- B - Lift Lever Raises/Lowers attachments
- C - Park Brake Lever Engages park brake
- D - Mower Height Control Raises/Lowers mower
- E - Key Starts engine
- F - PTO Knob Engages attachments
- G - Light Switch Push to engage lights



CONTROLS

Foot/Platform Controls (LX176, LX178, and LX188)



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

CONTROLS

Foot/Platform Controls (LX172 and LX173))



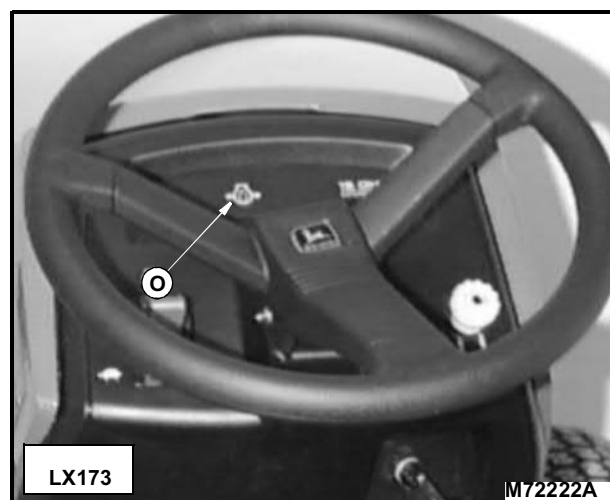
- K - Brake Pedal..... Stops machine
- L - Clutch Pedal.....
- M - Gear Shift Lever

CONTROLS

Indicator Lights



- N - Battery Discharge Light (All Tractors Except LX173)**
- O - Engine Oil Pressure Light (LX173, LX178 and LX188)**
- P - Coolant Temperature Light (LX178 and LX188)**



OPERATING THE MACHINE

SAFETY



Operate Safely

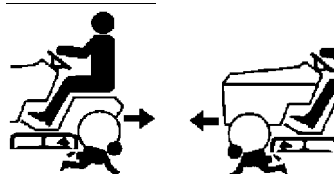
- Check brake action before you operate. Adjust or service brakes as necessary.
- Inspect machine before you operate. Be sure hardware is tight. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Be sure guards and shields are in good condition and fastened in place. Make any necessary adjustments 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.

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.

OPERATING THE MACHINE

Wear Appropriate Clothing



- 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.

Stay Clear of Rotating Drivelines



Entanglement in rotating driveline can cause serious injury or death:

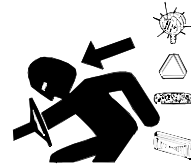
- Wear close fitting clothing.
- STOP the engine and be sure PTO driveline is stopped before getting near it.

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.

OPERATING THE MACHINE

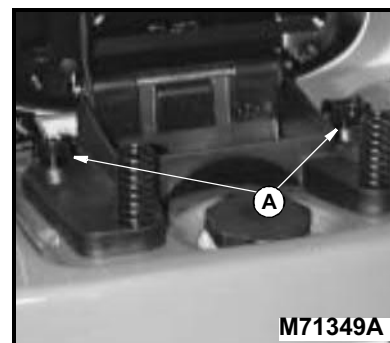
Transport Safely



- Use safety lights and devices. Slow moving machines when driven on public roads are hard to see, especially at night. Avoid personal injury or death resulting from a collision with a vehicle.
- Whenever driving on public roads, use flashing warning lights and turn signals according to local regulations. Extra flashing warning lights may need to be installed.

Adjusting Seat

1. Tip seat forward and loosen two knobs (A) to slide seat assembly forward or rearward to most comfortable OPERATOR position.
2. Tighten knobs after adjustment to keep seat in place.





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OPERATING THE MACHINE

Using the Park Brake

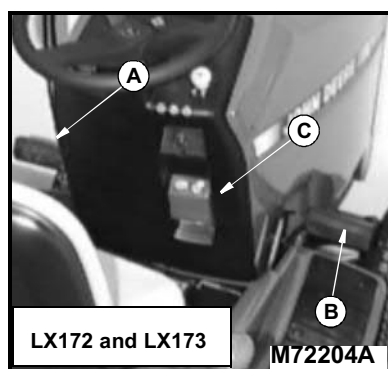


CAUTION: To avoid injury, always **LOCK** park brake before getting off tractor or leaving tractor unattended.

LOCKING PARK BRAKE:

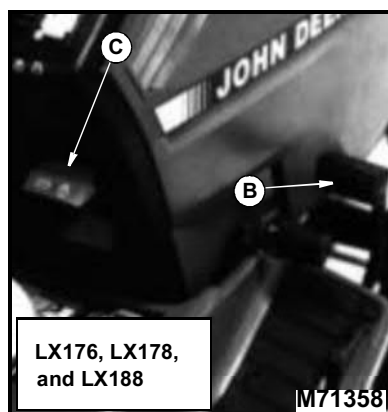
IMPORTANT: LX172 and LX173: To prevent damage to the park brake lever, be sure brake pedal and clutch pedal are all the way down before lifting the park brake lever.

- LX172 and LX173: Push clutch pedal (A) all the way down.
- Push brake pedal (B) all the way down.
- Lift park brake lever (C) up.
- Release pedal(s) and park brake lever. Pedal(s) should stay down and park brake lever should stay LOCKED in UP position.



UNLOCKING PARK BRAKE:

- Push and hold pedal(s) down.
- Push park brake lever down.
- Release pedal(s).



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