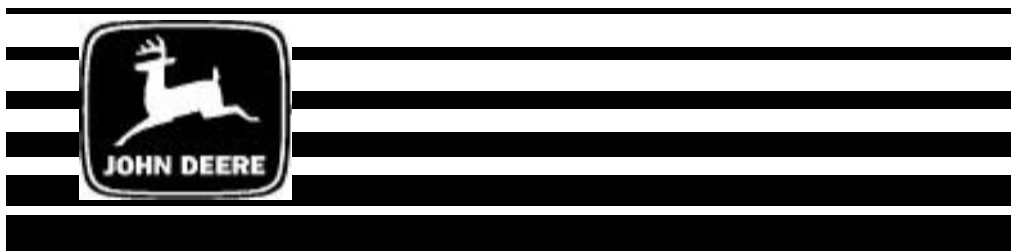


# 54-Inch Front Blade

(Serial No. 040001 – )



## OPERATOR'S MANUAL

**John Deere**  
**Lawn & Grounds Care Division**  
**OMM126795 A6**

North American Version  
Litho in U.S.A  
English

## INTRODUCTION

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**THANK YOU for purchasing a John Deere product.**

This 54-Inch Blade can be used on the 318, 322, 332, 420, 425, 430, 445, and 455 Tractors.

It can also be used on the F911, F925, and F935 Front Mowers.



**Throughout this manual the words 300 Series, 400 Series, and F900 Series will be referred to as:**

- **Whenever you see 300 Series: This refers to models 318, 322, and 332 Tractors.**
- **Whenever you see 400 Series: This refers to models 425, 445, and 455 Tractors.**
- **Whenever you see F900 Series: This refers to models F911, F925, and F935 Front Mowers.**
- **420 and 430 Tractors will be spelled out as such.**

Read this manual and your vehicle manual thoroughly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

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 U.S. customary units and their metric equivalents. RIGHT-HAND and LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction the machine will travel when going forward.

Product warranty is provided as part of John Deere's support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. The product warranty is explained on the warranty certificate you received from your dealer.

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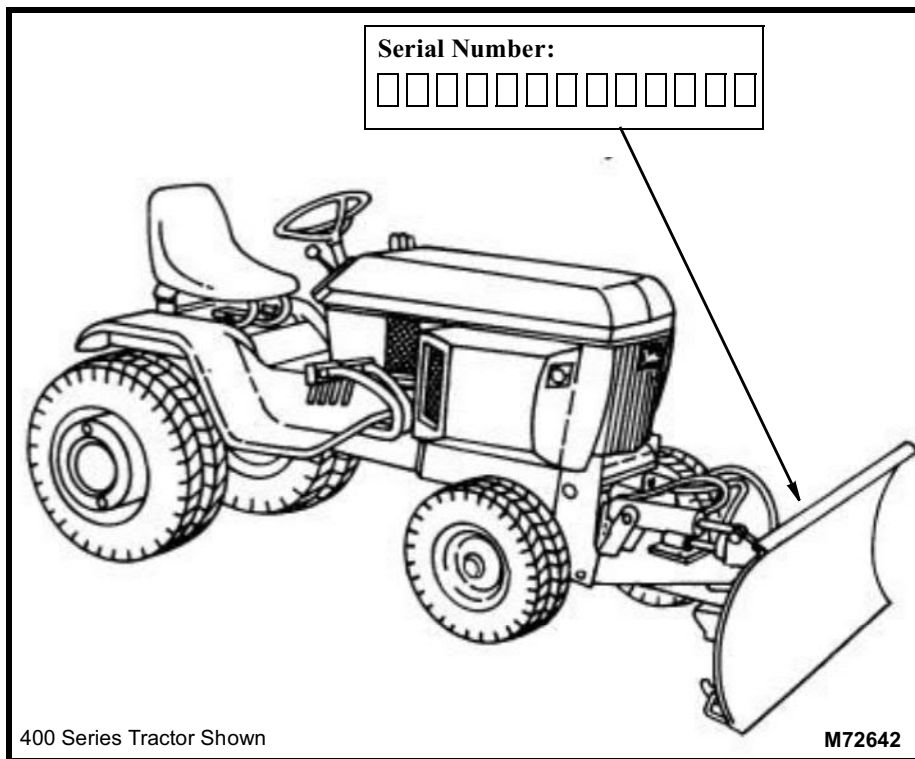
## INTRODUCTION

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:



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# SAFETY SIGNS

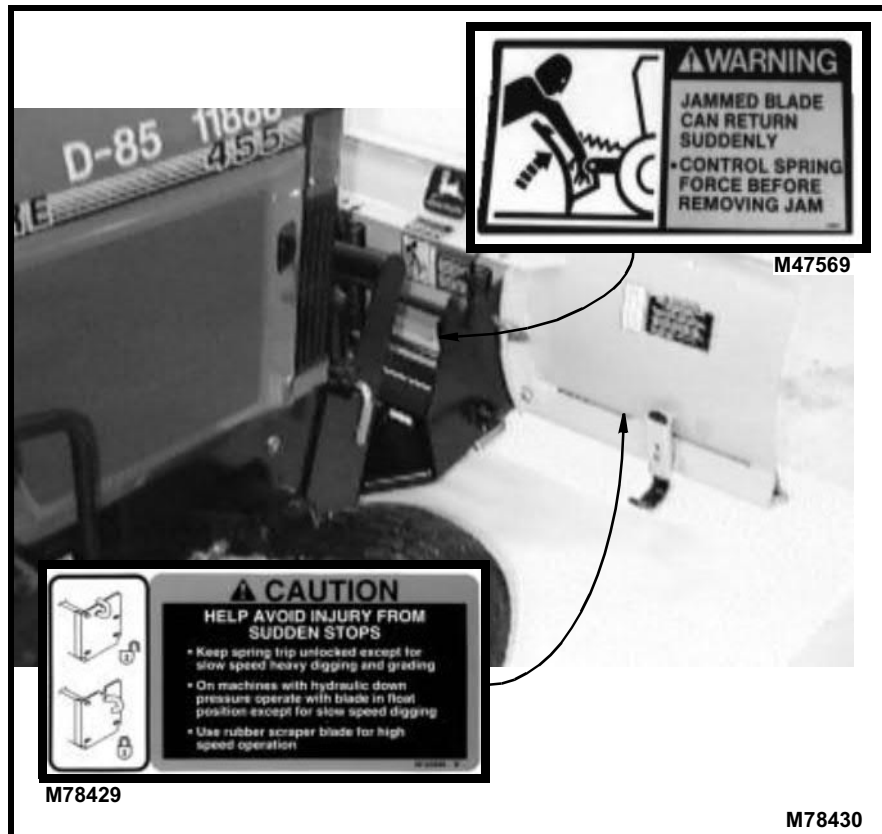
## Safety-Alert Symbol

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



## **PREPARING THE VEHICLE**

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### **Preparing The Tractor/Front Mower**

BALLASTING IS REQUIRED FOR SAFE OPERATION OF YOUR BLADE.

<b>300 SERIES TRACTORS (318, 322, AND 332)</b>	<b>Ballast:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Six rear suit case weights with bracket.</li></ul>
<b>400 SERIES TRACTORS (425, 445, AND 455 TRACTORS)</b>	<b>Ballast:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None required.</li></ul>
<b>420, AND 430</b>	<b>Ballast:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four rear suit case weights with bracket.</li></ul>
<b>F900 SERIES (F911, F925, AND F935)</b>	<b>Ballast:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Six rear bumper weights and cast iron rear bumper. (Rear Weight Kit required.)</li></ul>

## **PREPARING THE VEHICLE**

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**Your tractor/front mower MUST have:**

	<b>300 Series</b>	<b>400 Series</b>	<b>420 &amp; 430</b>	<b>F900 Series</b>
<b>FRONT HITCH KIT</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>FRONT MOUNTING EXTENSION BRACKET</b>			X (430 Only)	
<b>DUAL HYDRAULICS ON THE FRONT</b>	X			
<b>AUXILLIARY HYDRAULIC KIT</b>				X
<b>HYDRAULIC OUTLET KIT</b>		X (425 Only)		
<b>HYDRAULIC ANGLING KIT</b>	X	X	X	X

## PREPARING THE VEHICLE

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### To improve traction:

	300 Series	400 Series	420 & 430	F900 Series
<b>INSTALL CHAINS ON DRIVE TIRES</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>INSTALL WHEEL WEIGHTS ON DRIVE WHEELS</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>INSTALL LIQUID BALLAST IN DRIVE TIRES</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>PUSH DIFFERENTIAL LOCK BUTTON DOWN, IF ONE WHEEL IS SLIPPING. DURING NORMAL OPERATION DIFFERENTIAL LOCK BUTTON SHOULD NOT BE ENGAGED</b>		X	X	X
<b>USE INDIVIDUAL WHEELBRAKES TO REDUCE SLIPPAGE</b>	X		X	X

### To improve steering on the F900 Series:

- Install wheel weights in steering tires.
- Install liquid ballast in steering tires.
- Use individual wheel brakes to make sharp turns at slow speeds.

## **PREPARING THE VEHICLE**

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### **Recommended options on 300 Series:**

- 4 Ply Front Tires

### **Recommended options on F900 Series:**

- Weight Transfer Valve (F911, and F925)

### **Tire Inflation:\***

	<b>300 Series psi (kPa)</b>	<b>400 Series, 420 &amp; 430 psi (kPa)</b>	<b>F900 Series psi (kPa)</b>
<b>FRONT:</b> • 2 ply • 4 ply	14 (97 ) 22 (150 )		
<b>REAR</b>	5–10 (35–70)	5–10 (35–70)	
<b>FRONT:</b> • 2 ply (16x7.50) • 4 ply (18x8.50)		14 (97) (425, 445, and 455) 22 (150 )	
<b>FRONT (DRIVE)</b>			24 (165 )
<b>REAR (STEERING)</b>			28 (193 )

**\* NOTE: If tractor tires contain liquid ballast (calcium chloride solution), use a special air-water tire gauge to check inflation pressure. Tire gauges are available from your John Deere dealer.**

## INSTALLING – 400 SERIES

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### **Park Vehicle Safely**

- Stop vehicle on a level surface, not on a slope.
- Disengage PTO
- Engage the park brake.
- STOP the engine.
- Remove the key.
- Before you leave the operator's seat, wait for engine and all moving parts to STOP.

### **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.



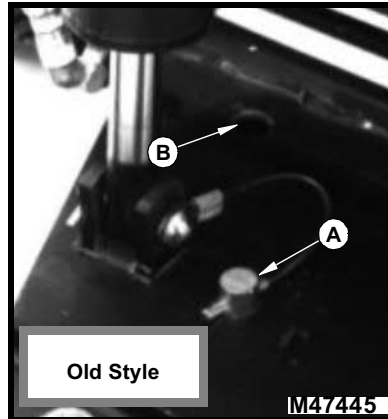
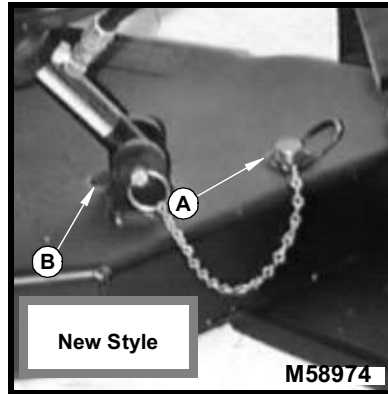
## INSTALLING – 400 SERIES

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### Cable Assembly

**NOTE: MAKE SURE** cable assembly is in the **REAR** hole on the front hitch.

Move cable assembly (A) to the rear hole (B) on front hitch.



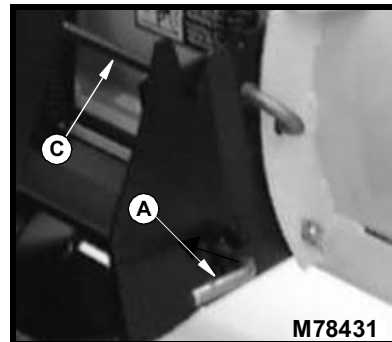
## INSTALLING – 400 SERIES

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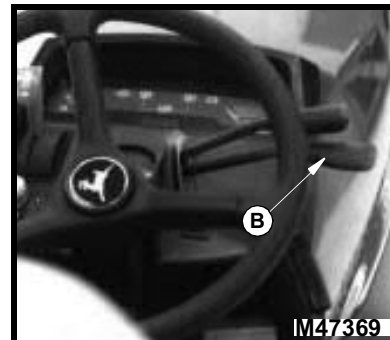
### Installing Blade

**NOTE: Front Hitch Kit and Angling Cylinder Kit must be installed before installing the Front Blade. Also needed for 425 only is Hydraulic Coupler Kit.**

1. Place blade on a level surface.
2. Release pins (A) from LOCKED position (if locked out).



3. Use the tractor's lower hydraulic lever (B) to align the notches on both sides of hitch, with rod (C) on the Front Blade.



4. After the rod ends are in the hitch notches, slowly raise blade by using the tractor's lower hydraulic lever.

5. Make sure that the Front Hitch L-pins (D) have LOCKED in the hole on the front blade mounting.





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## INSTALLING – F900 SERIES

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### **Park Vehicle Safely**

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