

**JOHN DEERE  
227 CORN PICKER  
AND 227-S  
CORN SNAPPER  
(SN 227-51249)**



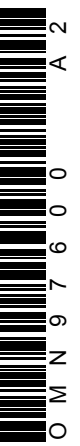
**JOHN DEERE**

**OPERATORS MANUAL  
JOHN DEERE 227 CORN PICKER  
AND 227-S CORN SNAPPER (SN  
227-51249)**

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ENGLISH



# To the purchaser

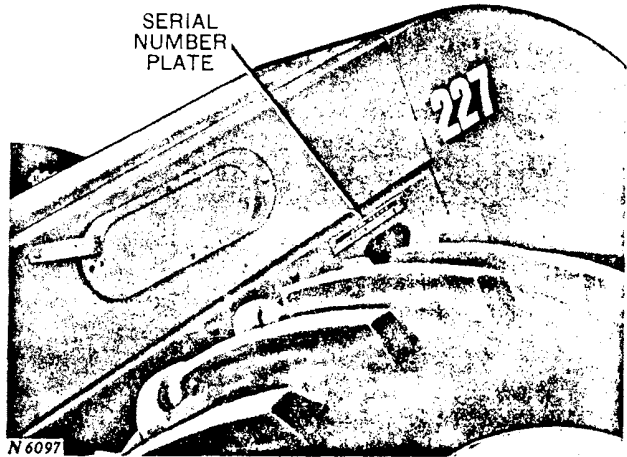
The purpose of this book is to give you useful information on how to operate your new John Deere 227 Corn Picker or 227-S Corn Snapper in the many field and crop conditions under which corn is grown.

A corn picker or corn snapper must be built to handle a wide range of conditions. Average conditions can be handled by the standard equipment with which the machine is shipped. However, unusual conditions may require some special equipment. Your new machine will do a type of work directly proportional to the amount of care you use in operating it.

Field conditions vary from year to year, from day to day and even from hour to hour. Different varieties of corn present widely different picking problems. A careful study of adjustments on your picker or snapper and what they accomplish under different conditions will allow you to reap the many benefits and economies that a picker or snapper can provide. This manual contains operational information for the corn picker as well as the corn snapper. If you have purchased a corn snapper, disregard any reference to the husking rolls, husk auger, etc.

If you find you need information not covered in this manual, see your John Deere dealer. He has the latest information on how to get the best service from your picker or snapper and can give you prompt "know-how" service in the field or in his shop.

When in need of parts, go to your John Deere dealer who carries genuine John Deere parts for your corn picker or corn snapper. Be sure to give him the serial number of your machine and the year purchased. This information should be recorded in the space provided on this page as soon as you have received your picker or snapper.



Model Number . . . . .  
Serial Number . . . . .  
Date Purchased . . . . .

You will find the Serial Number Plate on the left-hand outer main frame as illustrated above.

There also may be an identification number for inspection records on the right-hand row unit. Don't confuse this number with the serial number.



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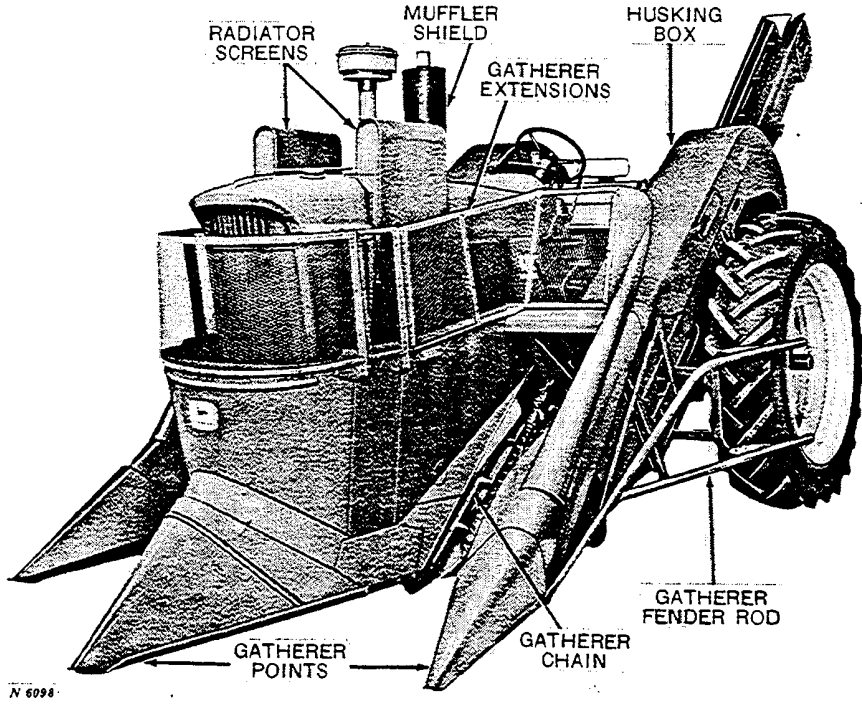
Hello dear friend!

Thank you very much for reading.

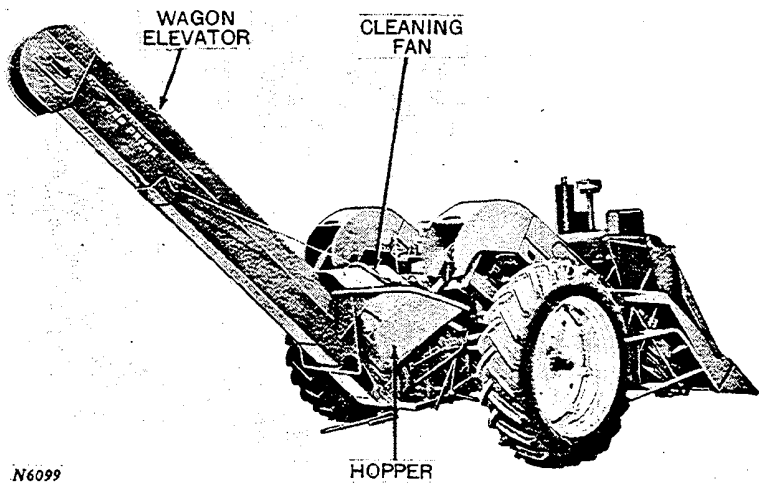
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John Deere 227 Corn Picker and 4010 Tractor



John Deere 227 Corn Picker and 4010 Tractor



# specifications

No. of rows . . . . .	2
Right- or left-hand machine . . . . .	Center
Center-to-center distance between snapping units, inches . . . . .	Adjustable 39 to 41
Row widths handled, inches . . . . .	38 to 44 inches
Gatherer points hinged or rigid . . . . .	Hinged
Gatherer points, high lift . . . . .	27 to 30 inches at hinge point
Points hinged above or below gatherer chains . . . . .	Above
No. of gatherer chains per snapping unit . . . . .	2
Type of gatherer chains . . . . .	Steel roller chain
Minimum clearance between gatherer chains and ground, inches . . . . .	0 inches and up
Distance gatherer chains ahead of snapping rolls entry, inches . . . . .	16 inches
Length of snapping rolls, inches (including points) . . . . .	41 inches
Snapping roll adjustment . . . . .	Selected by operator from tractor seat
Width of snapped corn elevator, inches . . . . .	6-1/2 to 10 inches
No. of husking rolls (corn picker only) . . . . .	8
Diameter of husking rolls, inches (corn picker only) . . . . .	3 inches
Length of husking rolls, inches (corn picker only) . . . . .	36 inches
Type of husking rolls: rubber roll (corn picker only) . . . . .	Spiral-grooved and notched
Mating roll (corn picker only) . . . . .	Smooth rubber
Shelled corn saver (corn picker only) . . . . .	Yes
Type of shelled corn saver (corn picker only) . . . . .	Auger
No. of cleaning fans . . . . .	1
Depth first elevator, inches . . . . .	8 inches
Width first elevator, inches . . . . .	9 to 12-3/4 inches
Wagon elevator location . . . . .	Centered between two rows being picked
Can machine be used without wagon hitch . . . . .	No
Width over-all of picker or snapper for transport . . . . .	8 feet, 4 inches
Wagon elevator folded or removed for transport . . . . .	Neither
Wagon elevator throw-out . . . . .	Semi-automatic
Approximate shipping weight, picker with hookup . . . . .	2970 lbs. approx.
Approximate shipping weight, snapper with hookup . . . . .	2745 lbs. approx.

## Attachments

Spiral Strips for Lug-Type Snapping Rolls	Husking Roll Covers
Gatherer Fender Rods (For tractors that are mounted from the rear)	Ladder (For mounting tractor from the rear)
Gatherer Fender Rods (For tractors that are mounted from the side)	Gatherer Sheet Extensions
Low-Lugged Snapping Rolls	Wagon Elevator Extension
Steel Wagon Box Flare Boards	Stalk Lifter Rods
PTO Sprocket (27 tooth) to Maintain Picker Speed with Slower Tractor rpm	Wagon Elevator Cover
	High Speed Fan Sheave
	Square Steel Flights for First Elevator

*(Specifications and design subject to change without notice.)*



# operation

Instructions for operating your cornpicker or snapper are included in this operator's manual. Follow these instructions to obtain maximum efficiency and long life from your machine.

## Tractor engine-PTO speed

The 227 Corn Picker or 227-S Corn Snapper is operated by the 540 rpm PTO shaft on the tractor. Special sprockets are available for 1000 rpm PTO tractors.

On 2010, 3010, and 4010 tractors, the engine speed must be 1900 rpm to obtain the proper PTO speed. See your tractor Operator's Manual for instructions.

On 530, 630, 730, 520, 620, 720, 50, 60, 70, A, 430, and 420 Series tractors, push the throttle to the extreme forward position. See your tractor Operator's Manual for instructions on setting the tractor governor for proper PTO speed.

## In the field

Successful operation, maximum saving of corn, quality of work, and the length of life of your John Deere corn picker or snapper depend largely on thorough lubrication, proper adjustment of all chains, slip clutches, and making the best use of the simple adjustments that are provided to meet varying crop conditions.

We recommend picking early to avoid the troubles and disagreeable features that accompany frozen ground, extremely cold weather, and dried-out, frozen, and rotten corn stalks.

The machine should travel in the same direction that the field was last cultivated. Listen for slipping clutches and watch for deep furrows, rocks, or other obstructions that might damage the machine.

Drive the tractor carefully so the gatherer

points will follow the row and guide cornstalks gently into the gatherer throat opening. Most of the ear loss in the field is caused by not staying on the row. Raise the units when making sharp turns and crossing the end of the field.



Never use a cornstalk or stick to clean the snapping or husking rolls of an obstruction, while the picker is running. If, for any reason, the picker or snapper becomes clogged, stop the tractor engine before removing the stalks or other obstruction from the machine.

## Starting the picker in the field

Before putting your picker or snapper into the field for the first time, lubricate thoroughly and operate slowly for a time making sure all parts are working freely.

If there is no binding or heating, run the machine at full speed for a few minutes. Go over the entire machine to be sure all bolts are tight and lubricant is reaching all bearings. Check the tension on all chains.

## Making adjustments

Take pride in doing the best work possible under all conditions. Set the gatherers and tilt the machine to pick up the down and leaning stalks. Set the snapping rolls so the corn is not mutilated or shelled excessively and to meet damp or dry conditions of corn.

If there is no binding or heating, run the machine at full speed for a few minutes. Go over the entire machine to be sure all bolts are tight and lubricant is reaching all bearings. Check the tension on all chains.

Make sure the units are centered on the tractor.

### Making adjustments

Take pride in doing the best work possible under all conditions. Set the gatherers and tilt the machine to pick up the down and leaning stalks. Set the snapping rolls so the corn is not mutilated or shelled excessively and to meet damp or dry conditions of corn.

If trouble is experienced, determine where it exists before making adjustments. Make no adjustments until the paint is worn off the slip clutches and working parts are smooth.

Never leave the tractor seat while the machine is running. Be sure to stop the tractor engine. Keep hands and clothing away from moving parts.

### Field losses

As the season progresses, field losses will increase. The corn dries out causing more shelling, and stalks become brittle causing more ear drop.

However, these losses can be reduced to a minimum by keeping your machine in proper adjustment, following the rows carefully, and picking at the proper speed according to yield and field conditions.

### Estimating shelled corn loss

Count the number of kernels around a hill in a square 40 by 40 inches. Make a count several places in the field and average the count.

If you find an average of 20 kernels per square you are losing one bushel per acre; 80 kernels per square would mean a loss of four bushels per acre.

Be sure to clear away all husks and leaves and shake any remaining kernels from husks.

### Estimating ear corn loss

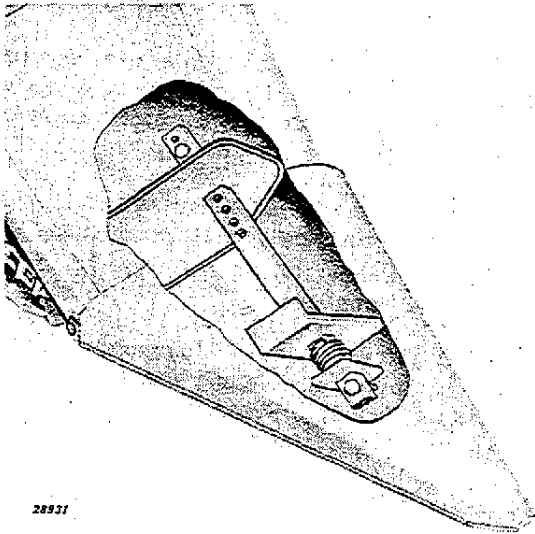
Mark off 133 feet (about 43 normal walking steps for an adult man) along one row. Each good sized ear (about 3/4 pound) represents one bushel of ear corn lost per acre.

Make the test several places throughout the field for a more accurate check. Be sure to kick the husks and stalks to avoid missing ears that are hidden.

To get the most accurate check on the efficiency of your picker, estimate the ear corn loss before as well as during and after the field is picked, because some ears drop off the stalks before harvest.

## Gatherers

### Gatherer points



The gatherer points are hinged to follow the contour of the ground. They can also be raised and locked in any of a number of positions.

When operating, have the gatherer points just touching the ground so they can pick up down stalks.

In muddy conditions or in snow, raise and lock gatherer points high enough to prevent the points from scooping material into the throat opening.

### Gatherer chains

The gatherer chains run well beyond the points of the snapping rolls. The chains can be run touching the ground if necessary to bring low hanging ears and down stalks into the snapping rolls.

**CAUTION:** Be careful to avoid rocks and other obstructions in the row when running gatherers close to the ground.

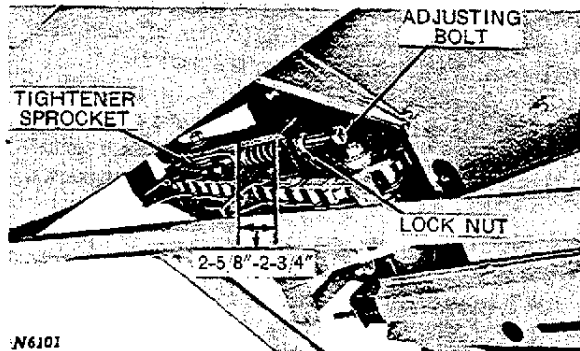
The gatherer chains should be cleaned regularly with kerosene. Dry the chains and oil them thoroughly before using.

Lubricate the chains as described on page 17.

In well standing corn, the rearward movement of the gatherer chain flights should be a little faster than the forward movement of the machine so the flights can help pull the stalks into the snapping rolls.

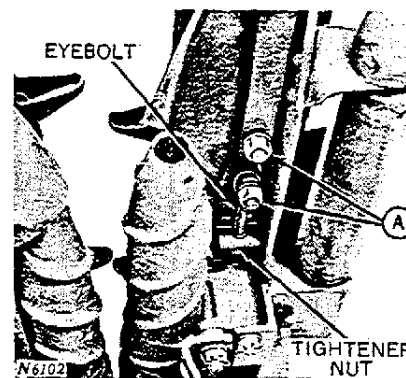
If ground speed is too fast, the chains push stalks forward and knock off the ears. If ground speed is too slow, the chains jerk the stalks back into the unit possibly breaking the stalks or knocking off the ears.

### Adjusting outer gatherer chain



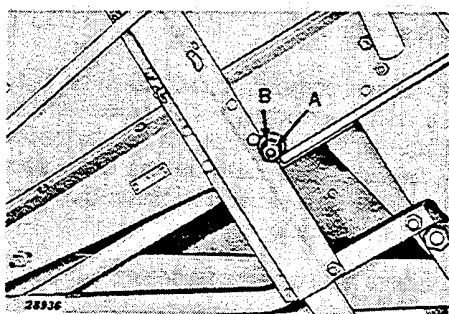
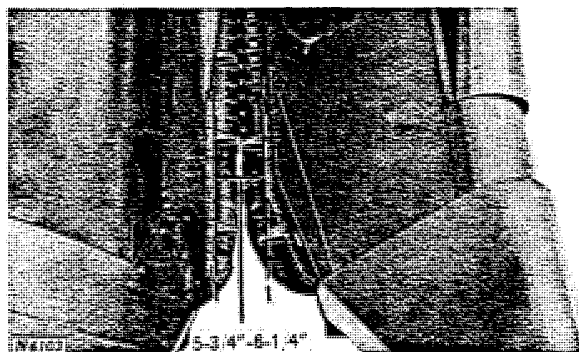
Loosen the lock nut, and turn the adjusting bolt until the spring length is 2-5/8 to 2-3/4 inches. Tighten the lock nut to maintain the proper tension.

### Adjusting inner gatherer chain



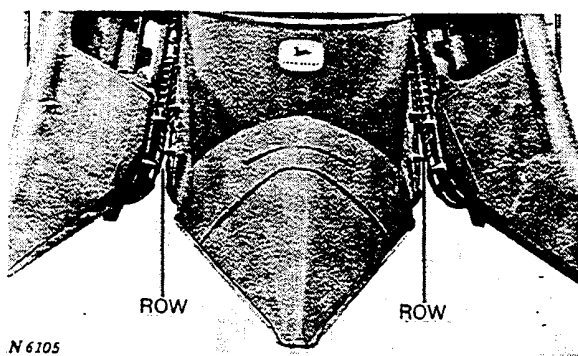
Loosen nuts "A." Tighten the nut on the eyebolt until there is slight tension on the chain and the tightener sprocket can move about 3/8-inch in the slot when the spring is put under greater compression. Be sure to tighten nuts "A" after chain is adjusted.

**Gatherer throat opening**

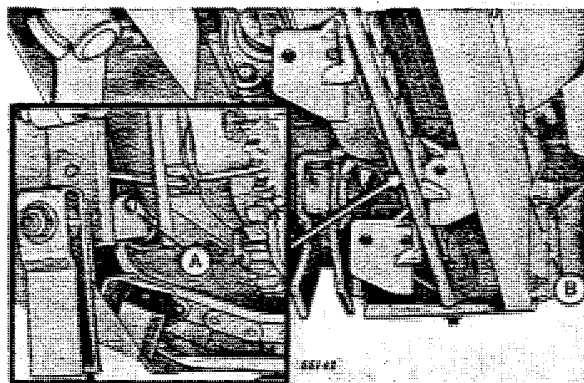


The gatherer throat opening should be between 5-3/4 and 6-1/4 inches wide. Loosen lock nut "A." Tighten nut "B" to decrease the throat opening; loosen the nut to increase the opening. Tighten lock nut after adjustment is made.

**Row spacing**



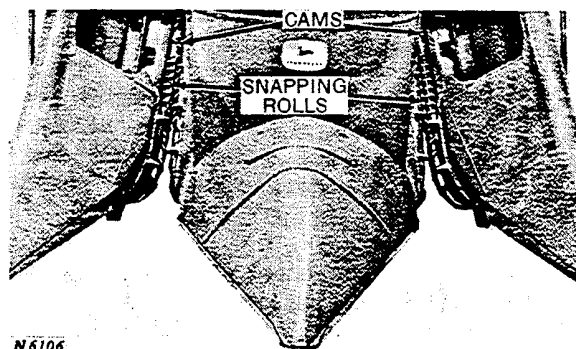
The spacing of the row units can be adjusted to harvest various row spacings. Under dry or frozen conditions, the row unit spacing should not vary more than two inches from the row spacing. Measure the row unit spacing between the inner snapping roll bearings.



Row spacing adjustment is made by loosening bolt "A" and turning adjustment nuts "B" in or out to move row unit in or out on the lift roller shaft. Lock adjusting nuts "B" and tighten bolt "A."

*NOTE: When making adjustment, allow clearance between the inner gatherer sheets and the sides of the tractor.*

**Snapping rolls**



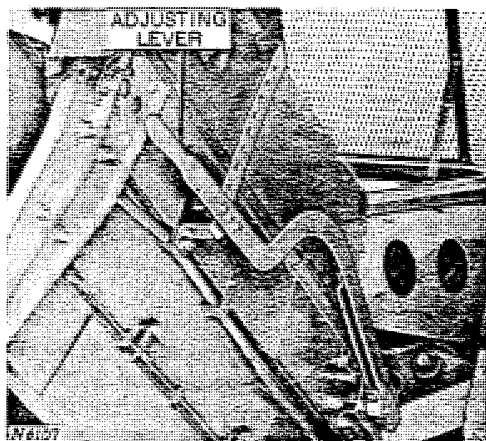
The snapping rolls snap off ears and dispose of stalks and trash. Spiral ribs auger the stalks and corn up the rolls. Flutes between the spiral ribs pull stalks and trash through the rolls.

Tangled or delayed stalks are forced through the upper end of the rolls by a pair of cams. The points of both rolls are carried close to the ground and are spiral ribbed. They assist in augering the corn safely into the rolls.

The operator can move the snapping roll adjusting lever from the tractor seat to change the roll spacing. Each row unit has an individual lever. The snapping roll adjusting linkages have a series of holes so snapping roll adjusting levers can be adjusted to operate the same on each unit.

## 8 operation

### Adjusting snapping rolls



Move the lever down to open the rolls and up to close the rolls.

The snapping rolls can be adjusted while the machine is in operation.

The snapping rolls should be run as close together as possible without breaking off stalks.

In general, the snapping rolls should be run closer together when the stalks are damp and farther apart when the stalks are brittle. However, excessive shelling and plugging results when the rolls are set too far apart.

Regular lug or low-lug type snapping rolls are available to use in place of the spiral type rolls if desired.

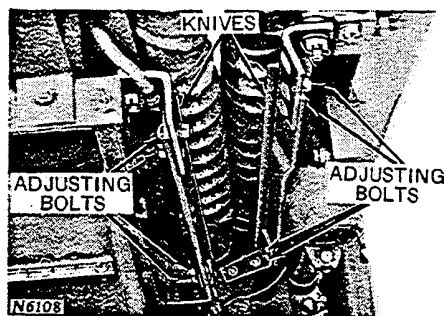
### Ground speed

The maximum ground speed should be governed so the stalks pass through the snapping rolls at about the same rate as the forward travel of the machine.

Determine whether ground speed is too fast by examining the rows that have been picked. If the stalks are all bent forward and some have been partially pulled out of the ground, the ground speed is too fast and you should shift your tractor into a lower gear.

Generally, the picker will do a better job of snapping ears off the stalk and removing husks when the picker is driven slowly (1st or 2nd gear). It is also easier to keep on the row and reduce ear loss when picking at a slow ground speed.

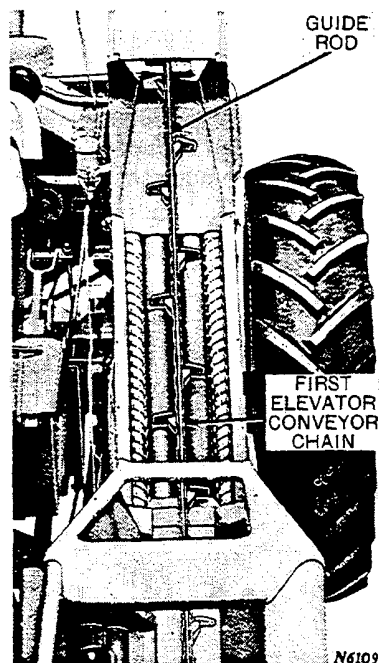
### Trash knives



Trash knives are located beneath the snapping rolls to keep weeds and trash from wrapping around the rolls.

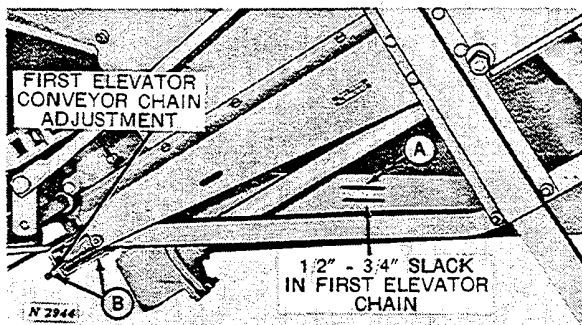
The knives should be adjusted as close as possible to the snapping rolls, however the rolls should not strike the knives. To adjust the knives, loosen the adjusting nuts in the knife supports and move the knives closer to or farther from the rolls as desired.

### First elevator conveyor chain



The first elevator conveyor chain moves the corn from the snapping rolls over the husking rolls and into the wagon elevator hopper. The chain is guided along its entire length at the top and supported on its return under the husking box by a guide rod.

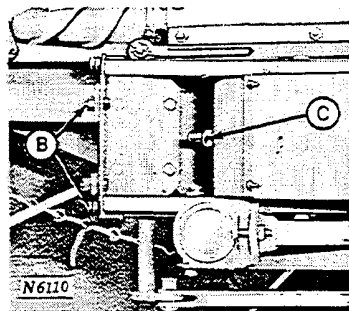
### Adjusting first elevator chain



It is important that only a small amount of slack be allowed in the first elevator conveyor chain. Proper adjustment is from 1/2" to 3/4" slack, checked on the lower return side as shown at "A."

Turn nuts "B" (see above and below) onto adjusting bolts to tighten chain. When proper tension is obtained, lock jam nuts.

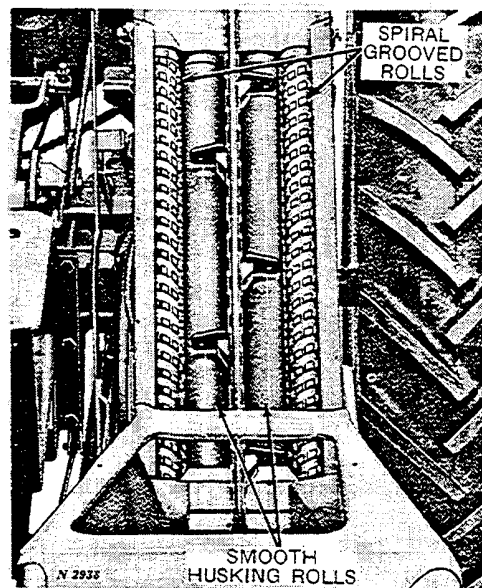
### Adjusting guide rod



Adjust nut "C" until the guide rod clears the upper sprocket by approximately 1/16 inch.

The guide rod should also be adjusted so it just clears the first elevator chain at the lower end, where the ears drop off the stalks into the first elevator.

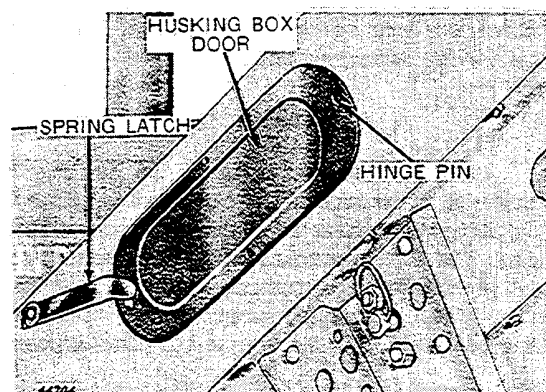
### Husking rolls



There are four long rubber husking rolls in each row unit. Two rolls are smooth hard rubber and two have a spiral-grooved profile. The ears are conveyed over the husking rolls by a conveyor chain.

Wood husking rolls can be used as the inner two rolls on the husking bed when picking corn with small ears or when less aggressive husking is desired. Serrated tire carcass type rolls can be used as the outer rolls when more aggressive husking is desired.

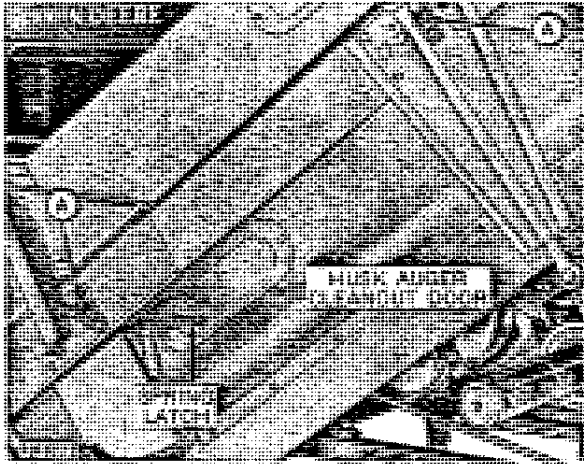
### Inspection door



An access door on each side of the husking box cover is used to check the condition and adjustment of the husking rolls.

To open the door, turn the spring latch and pivot the door on the hinge pin.

### Adjusting husking rolls



If the rubber rolls do not contact each other throughout their entire length, they will not grasp husks and pull them from the ears.

A good test for husking roll spacing is to try to pass an ordinary piece of paper through the rolls. If the rolls grip the paper and try to hold it with a slight pressure, the spacing is correct.

Each outside and each inside husking roll is adjusted at both upper and lower ends in the same manner.

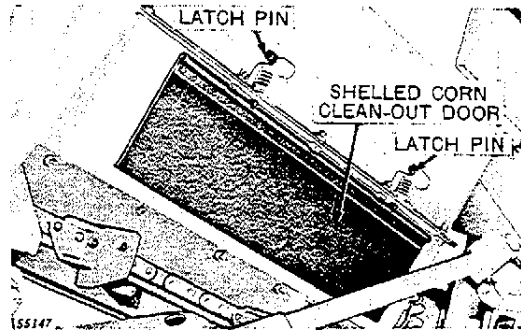
Adjust the rolls closer together by raising the lock spring and tightening adjusting bolt "A." Adjust the rolls farther apart by raising the lock spring and loosening the adjusting bolt "A." Replace the lock spring over the bolt just above or below the adjusting bolt.

### Husk auger

An auger located beneath the husking rolls conveys the husks to the rear and empties them on the ground in front of the wagon elevator hopper. The lower portion of the husk auger housing is perforated, permitting the shelled corn to drop into a smaller auger which conveys any shelled corn into the wagon elevator hopper.

In freezing weather, run the picker slowly for a few minutes at the end of each day's operation to clean out the trash in the auger. Open the cleanout door (illustrated above) and remove any remaining trash from the auger housing.

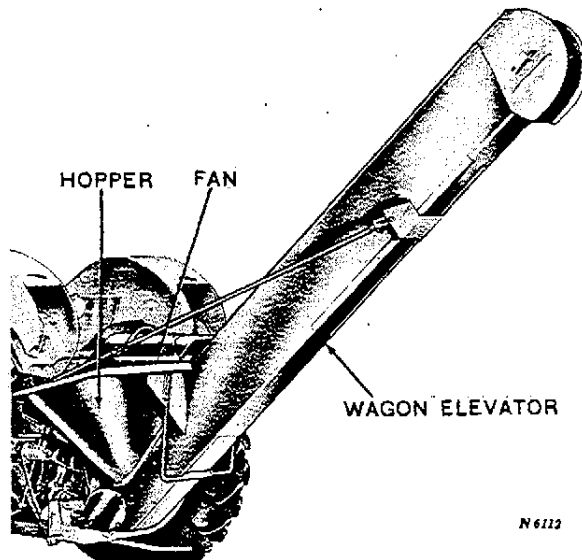
### Shelled corn auger



A large removable clean-out door is provided along the inner side of the shelled corn auger housing.

To remove the shelled corn door, raise the latch pins, and hook them over the bracket. Raise the door and pull it out at the top.

### Wagon elevator



The wagon elevator, hopper and fan are constructed as one unit.

### Cleaning fan

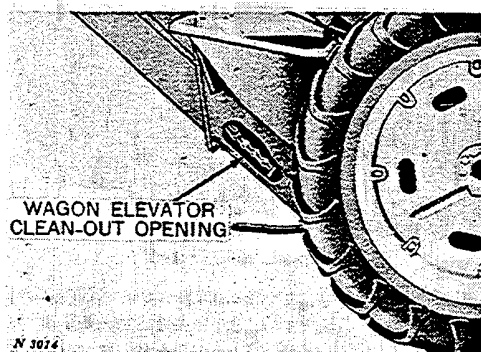
The cleaning fan is located centrally in the wagon elevator hopper. The blast from the fan is directed across the delivery from each row unit. A larger drive sheave is available as special equipment to increase the output of the fan.

### Wagon elevator throw-out

The wagon elevator is equipped with a clutch on the drive gear case which is automatically disengaged as the picker units are raised. When the machine is in picking position the clutch may be re-engaged when the operator desires.

See pages 43, 44, 67, and 81 for information on how to adjust the throw-out clutch.

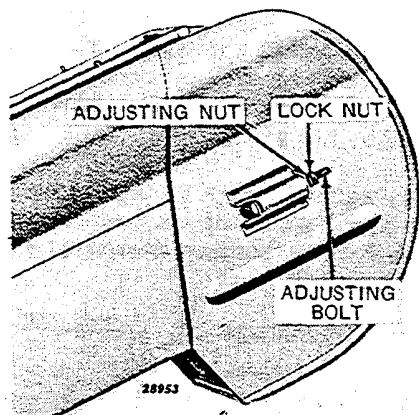
### Cleanout opening



The wagon elevator has a cleanout opening at the lower end on the right-hand side.

In freezing weather the wagon elevator should be cleaned out at the end of each day.

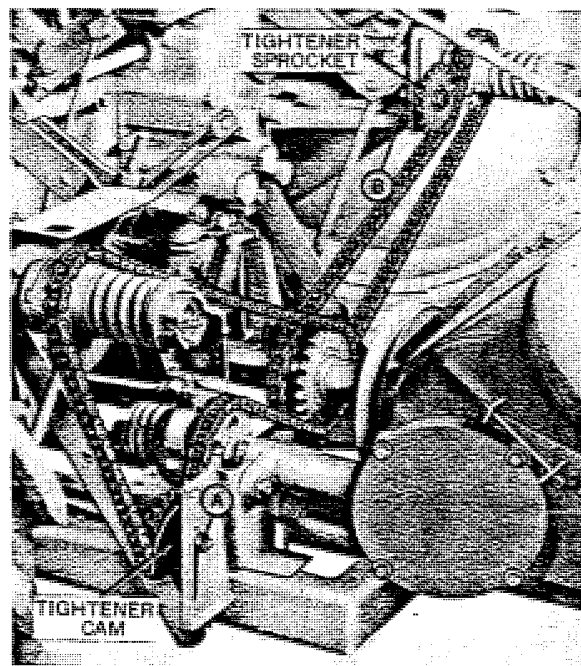
### Adjusting conveyor chain



Keep the wagon elevator chain just tight enough to elevate corn. Chain has proper tension when the center of the chain can be raised approximately 3" from the elevator bottom. Lubricate the chain as described on page 17.

To adjust the chain, loosen the lock nut on the adjusting bolt at the upper end of the wagon elevator (both sides). Tighten the adjusting nut and the lock nut.

### Drive chains



Do not run the drive chains too tight; however, they must not be loose enough to slap. Extra offset or half links are furnished in each chain to permit shortening as chains wear or stretch.

When removing links from roller chains be sure to reassemble the chain with the closed end of the spring clip in the direction the chain is traveling.

Make sure all sprockets are aligned so the chain will run in a straight line.

Drive chains should be cleaned regularly. Take the chain off and clean it thoroughly by soaking in a safe solvent. Dry well and oil it thoroughly before starting again.

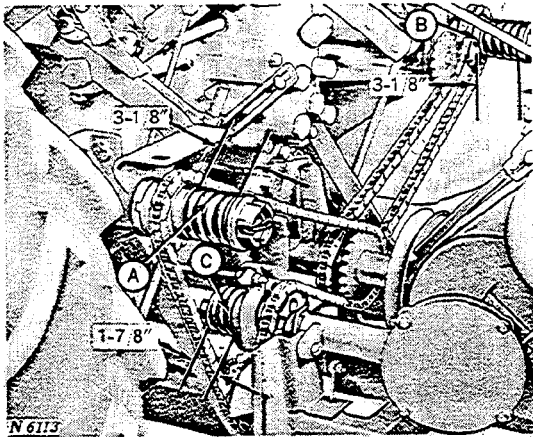
Lubricate roller chains as described on page 17.

### Adjusting chains

To adjust the left-hand main drive chain, loosen nut "A" and adjust with the tightener sprocket. Tighten nut "A."

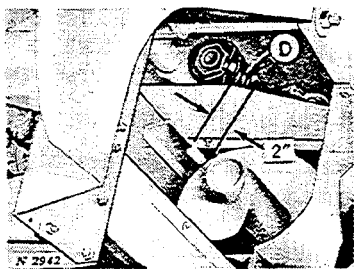
To adjust the right-hand main drive chain, loosen nut "B" and adjust by moving the tightener sprocket. Tighten nut "B."

**Slip clutches**



Slip clutches act as safety devices to reduce breakage. The spring controlling the clutch should have just enough tension to hold the clutch to its normal work.

Should the clutch slip when the picker or snapper is in operation, stop immediately, determine the cause and correct. Do not set the clutch under further tension to correct. If slip clutches do not slip easily, take them apart and clean. This should be done once each season.

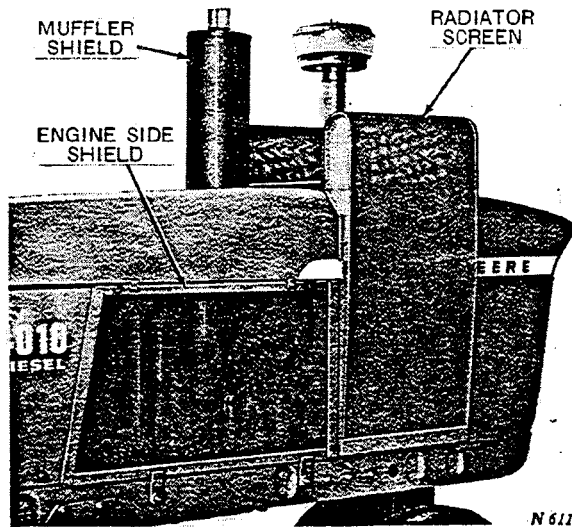


Slip clutches are provided on the following drives:

- Main Drive (2) "A" and "B."
- Wagon Elevator Drive (1) "C."
- First Elevator Conveyor Drive (2) "D."

Adjust slip clutches by screwing adjusting nut on or off one turn at a time to tighten or loosen clutch spring compression. The normal operating spring length for each slip clutch is shown above. The minimum spring length for each clutch is 1/8-inch shorter than the dimension shown above. To check spring compression measure the over-all length of the spring only.

**Fire prevention**



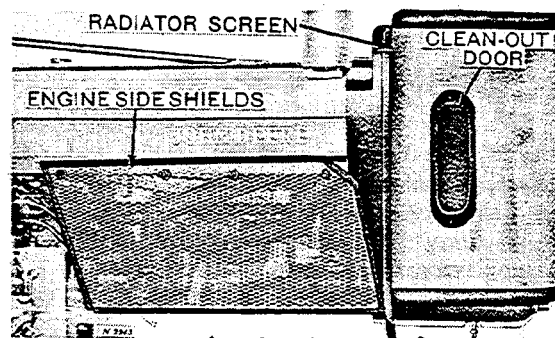
John Deere 4010 Tractor

In dry corn picking seasons use extra care to prevent fires. Carry a fire extinguisher as a precautionary measure, and keep it in a place that is handy from the operator's platform.

Radiator screens are required for all John Deere 2010, 3010, and 4010 Tractors. They are recommended for other tractors when the temperature is above 80 degrees or in conditions where there is excessive dirt or trash.

The muffler shield and engine side shields must be installed properly. An occasional check should be made to see if any fine material has accumulated on the engine.

Keep the radiator core free from fine corn husks and silks. When the core becomes filled with fine material it causes overheating of the engine.



John Deere A Tractor

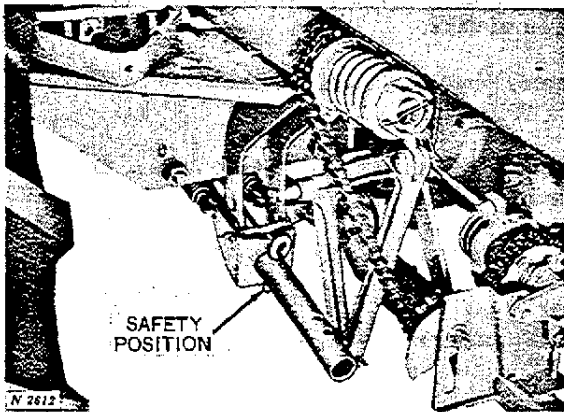
## Safety rules

The safety of the operator was one of the prime considerations in the minds of John Deere engineers when this machine was designed.

All drives are shielded and located well away from the operator. The transmission of power by enclosed gears eliminates the hazards of open chains and their adjustments.

The husking box features a cover which is nonremovable in operation, yet can be quickly removed for service. An access door is provided in the cover to be used for checking inside the husking box. It is important that this cover and all safety shields be kept in place and all access doors be closed in operation.

### Safety position



A safety feature has been provided in the lift mechanism of the 227 Corn Picker and 227-S Corn Snapper to protect the operator from accidental lowering of the units while a man is working under the machine.

Whenever it is necessary to work under the row units, the lift lock pin should be moved to the safety position, in the rear of the balance spring tube, as shown.

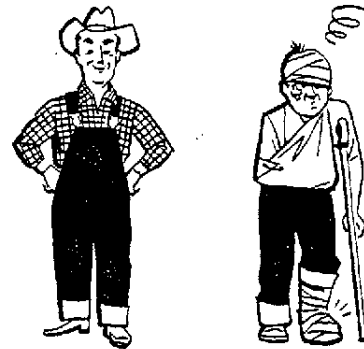
### Shut off the picker

Never use a cornstalk or stick to clean the snapping or husking rolls of an obstruction while the corn picker is running. If, for any reason, the picker or snapper should become clogged, stop the tractor engine and then remove the obstacle from the machine.

The snapping rolls turn so fast that they pull cornstalks through at the rate of about seven feet per second. It takes a normal person half a second or more to let go of a cornstalk that has been suddenly caught and run through the snapping rolls.

This means that your hands can be pulled into the rolls faster than you can let loose of the cornstalk.

### What are your chances?



Mr. Careful<sup>56871</sup> Mr. Careless

If you can be classed as a careful operator, your chance of getting hurt on a corn picker in the next five years is about one in a million.

But, if you are an average operator, who takes occasional chances—such as trying to remove a loose cornstalk from the husking rolls while the picker is running—you stand one chance in 25 of getting hurt by a corn picker during the next five years.

The careless operator who ignores safety rules to the extent of trying to unclog snapping rolls while the picker is running has a 50 - 50 chance of being seriously injured in the next five years.



# trouble shooting

## Loss of ear corn in the field

### Possible cause

### Possible remedy

Gatherer points set too high.

Adjust gatherer points so they just touch the ground. When picking low-hanging ears, hook up the gatherer points and run the picker with the skids close to the ground. See page 6.

Ground speed too fast.

Run picker at a speed to meet the yield and ground condition.

Not picking planter rows.

Pick a pair of rows as they were planted. It will be easier to follow the rows and eliminate loss of ears.

Tractor power take-off speed not correct.

Tractor power take-off speed should be 540 rpm or 1000 rpm.

Not following the rows.

Keep the picker on the rows to avoid missing ears.

Late picking.

Pick early to avoid dried out, frozen and rotten stalks.

Ears falling over gatherer sheets from leaning and broken stalks.

Install gatherer extensions. See page 88.

Gatherer chain lugs miss ears.

Gatherer throat opening too wide. Opening should be 5-3/4 to 6-1/4 inches. See page 7.

Ears miss wagon elevator.

Wagon not properly located under wagon elevator. Adjust wagon location. Install flareboards.

Broken or lost gatherer chains.

Repair or replace gatherer chain.

## Excessive shelling

Snapping rolls not adjusted properly.

Adjust snapping rolls so they run as close together as possible without breaking off stalks. See pages 7-8.

Ears of corn catching on outside snapping roll stripper.

Stripper should just clear the snapping roll.

Rough snapping rolls.

New snapping rolls will lose rough edges after first day of picking.

Picker is "loose."

Keep all bolts tight in frame and sheet metal. Replace missing bolts. Keep lower snapping roll bearing support bolts tight.



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## Possible cause

## Possible remedy

**Poor husking**

Husking rolls not touching.	Adjust husking rolls. See pages 9-10.
Husking rolls will not touch after maximum adjustment has been made.	Rolls are worn. Replace worn rolls.
Late picking.	Pick corn as early as conditions permit. Corn will husk cleaner when damp.
Poor fan blast.	Check fan drive belt for slippage. Install the high-speed fan drive sheave, available as special equipment.

**Excessive power required**

Picker or snapper not properly mounted.	Go over the machine carefully. Refer to check list on page 25. Make sure all nuts are tight and cotter pins are spread.
Improper lubrication.	Lubricate machine thoroughly. See pages 17-23.
New picker or snapper is stiff.	Operate the machine slowly for 30 minutes to break it in properly.
Drive chains too tight.	Adjust chain tension. See page 11.

**Plugging**

Stalks staying on snapping rolls.	Install 1/2-inch square head machine bolts on snapping rolls to obtain more aggressive snapping action. If rolls are badly worn, replace rolls.
Stalks breaking in snapping rolls.	Adjust snapping rolls. See pages 7-8.
Trash winds around snapping rolls.	Adjust trash knives under snapping rolls. See page 8.
Loose gatherer chains.	Adjust gatherer chain tension. See page 6.
Not staying on rows.	Keep the machine on the rows.
Not picking planter rows.	Pick a pair of rows as they were planted.
Tractor power take-off speed too slow.	Proper tractor power take-off speed is 540 rpm or 1000 rpm.
Material catching on sheet metal.	Check machine for bent or broken sheet metal.
Ground speed too fast.	Slow down to meet yield and picking conditions.
Material not flowing through husk auger.	Check for obstructions in the husk auger housing and for roughness on the husk auger.

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