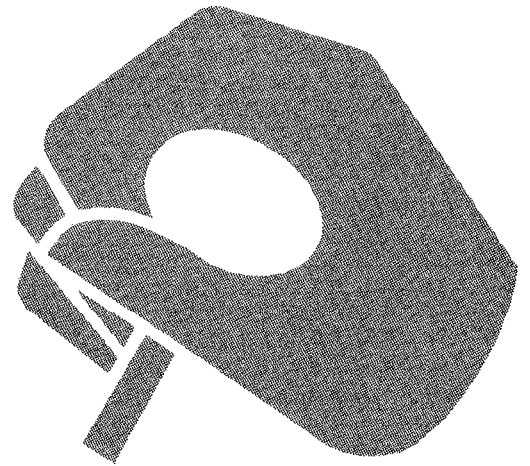


1250 Tractor

OPERATORS MANUAL



John Deere Tractor Works
OM-RW16324 Issue L1

LITHO IN U.S.A.

IMPORTANT WARRANTY INFORMATION

The warranty on this tractor appears on your copy of the purchase order which you should have received from your dealer when making your purchase. This warranty provides you the assurance that John Deere will back its products where defects appear within the warranty period. In some circumstances, John Deere also provides field improvements, often without charge to the customer, even if the product is out of warranty.

Warranty and field improvements are a part of John Deere's product support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. Should the equipment be abused, or modified to change its performance beyond the original factory specifications, the warranty will become void and field improvements may be denied. Setting fuel delivery above specifications or otherwise overpowering machines will result in such action.

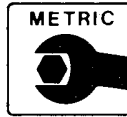


This safety alert symbol indicates important safety messages in this manual. When you see this symbol, be alert to the possibility of personal injury and carefully read the message that follows.

"Right-hand" and the "left-hand" sides of the tractor are determined by facing in the direction of tractor forward travel.



Worldwide symbols are used to assist identification and operation. In this manual, an identifying symbol is placed by the instructions like the example at the left for the symbol on the engine oil pressure gauge. The cylinder block in the symbol represents the engine, the drop signifies the oil, and the arrows indicate pressure. Regardless of the language used in a nation, this symbol means engine oil pressure without translation.



This Tractor is of metric design.

For your convenience, most specifications are given in metric measurement with the customary U.S. measurement following.

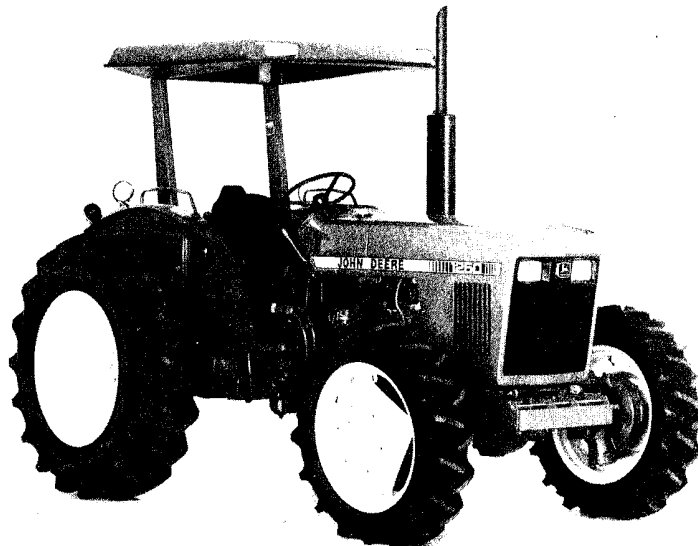
Some specifications cannot be converted. These appear in metric only.

Most hardware is metric. Specified metric hardware must be used for replacement.



CAUTION: Use only metric tools. Other tools may not fit properly. They may slip and cause injury.

Record your tractor serial numbers in the space provided in the Specification Section. Provide this information to your dealer when ordering parts.



RW2387

Contents

Safety	2
Controls and Instruments	8
Lighting and Signals	12
Operator's Station	14
Engine Break-in	15
Prestarting Checks	16
Operating the Engine	18
Operating the Tractor	25
Rockshaft and Three-Point Hitch	30
Remote Hydraulic Cylinders (Optional)	39
Drawbar and PTO	44
Ballast	48
Wheels, Tires, and Tread	53
Transporting	57
Fuels and Lubricants	60
Lubrication and Maintenance	64
Trouble Shooting	80
Service	85
Storage	104
Specifications	107
Daily Maintenance	110
Lubrication and Maintenance Record	110
Index	117

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Safety

OPERATE TRACTOR SAFELY

Never allow riders on the tractor.

Slow down for hillsides, rough ground, and sharp turns.

Couple the brake pedals together before driving at transport speeds.



AJ7/RW2378 U01;SA01 X1 010981

AVOID TIP-OVERS

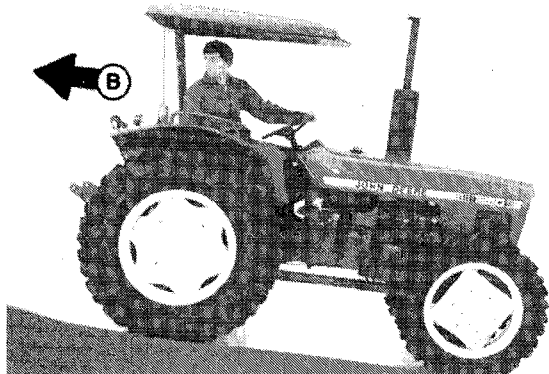
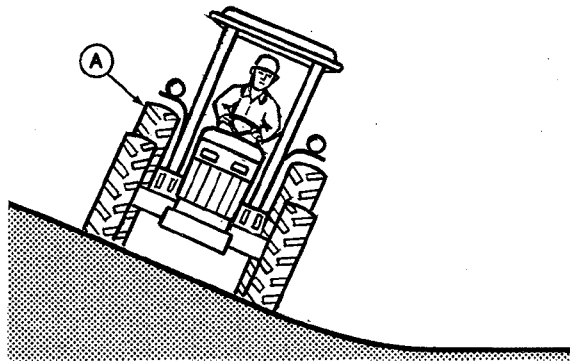
Avoid holes, ditches, etc. which may cause the tractor to tip, especially on hillsides.

Front wheel drive greatly increases traction. Extra caution is needed on slopes (A). Compared to 2-Wheel Drive, a front wheel drive tractor maintains traction on steeper slopes, and it's easier to approach stability limits.

Never drive near the edge of a gully or steep embankment—it might cave in.

Driving forward out of a ditch or mired condition or up a steep slope could cause tractor to tip over rearward. Back out of these situations if possible (B).

Hitch towed loads only to the drawbar. When using a chain, take up the slack slowly.



AJ7/RW2407L,RW2379 U01;SA02 X1 010981

HANDLE CHEMICALS PROPERLY

When using agricultural chemicals, follow the instructions given in the implement operator's manual and those given by the chemical manufacturer.

SA03 030980

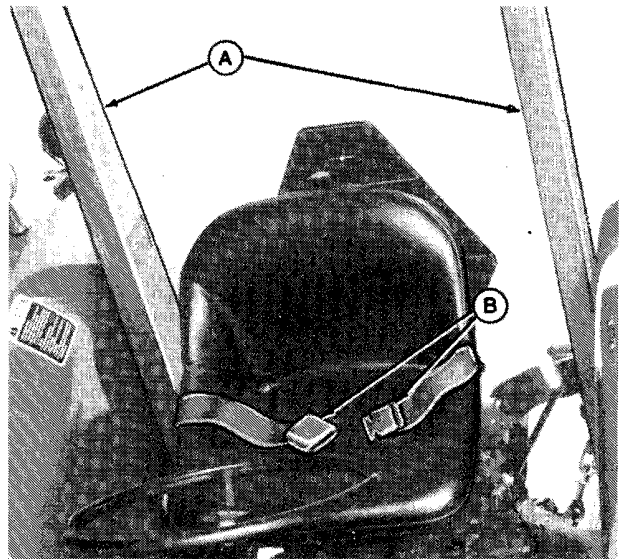
USE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROPERLY

If your tractor is equipped with a ROLL-GARD® protective frame (A), use the seat belt (B) under almost all operating conditions.

Use of seat belt is not recommended for tractors without a rollover protective device.

Never modify structural members of ROLL-GARD protective frame by welding, bending, grinding or cutting, as this may weaken the structure. If any component is damaged, replace it. Do not attempt repairs.

If ROLL-GARD protective equipment is loosened or removed for any reason, make certain all parts are reinstalled correctly. Tighten mounting bolts to proper torque, see Reinstalling ROLL-GARD Protective Equipment, page 102.



AJ7/RW2380 U01:SA04 X1 181181

TRANSPORT SAFELY

Never tow the tractor faster than 30 km/h (19 mph).

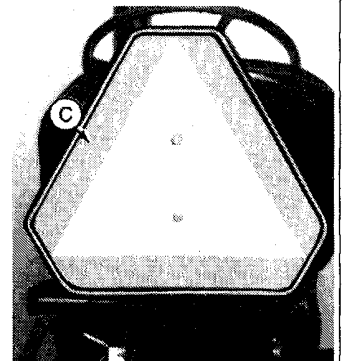
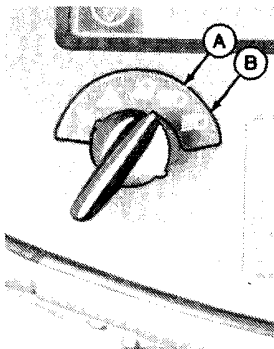
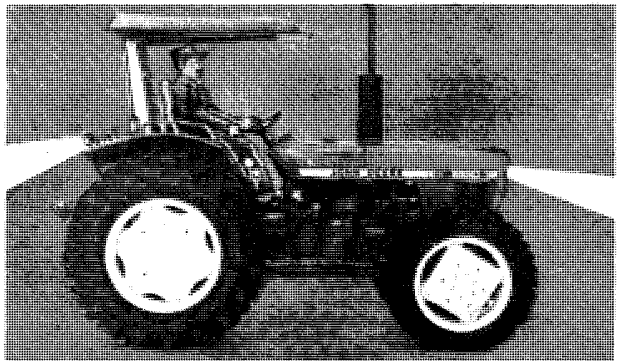
Before descending a steep hill, shift to a low gear to control the tractor with little or no braking. Never coast downhill.

A towed load of more than twice the weight of the tractor should have brakes. If it does not, drive slowly and avoid hills. Avoid hard applications of the brakes when pulling heavy loads.

When operating the tractor on a road, turn the headlight switch to the high (A) or low (B) beam position. Always dim headlights (B) before meeting another vehicle.

Be sure SMV (C) is visible and clean.

Be sure lighting conforms to local regulations.



AJ7/RW2381,RW2382,RW2383 U01:SA05 X1 181181

DO NOT MODIFY TRACTOR

Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.

U01:SA06 X1 010561

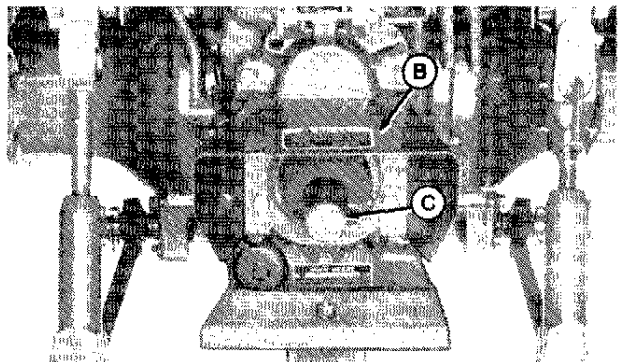
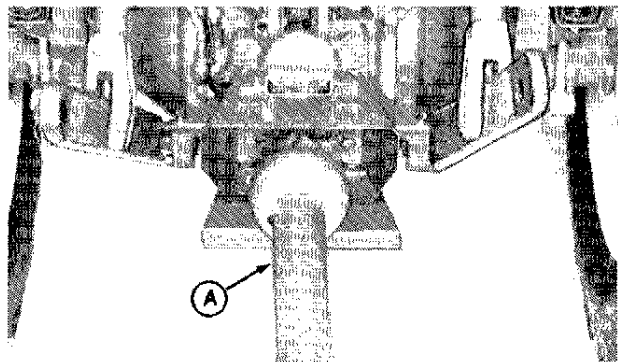
STAY CLEAR OF PTO

Stop the engine and be sure the PTO has stopped before:

- Connecting or disconnecting a PTO shaft (A)
- Making any adjustment to PTO drive train or hitch
- Cleaning out PTO driven equipment.

PTO master shield (B) should be in place at all times except for special applications as directed in the operator's manual.

The PTO guard (C) should be in place when the PTO is not being used.

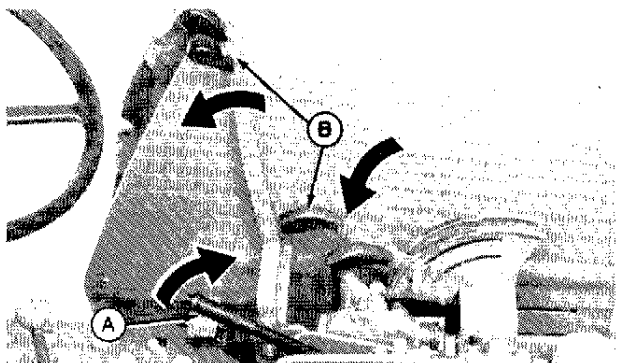


AJ7:RW2304,RW2385 U01:SA07 X1 010981

STAY CLEAR OF MOVING TRACTOR

Never try to get on or off a moving tractor.

Before dismounting, set hand brake (A) and lower implements to the ground (B). If tractor is to be left unattended, stop the engine and remove the key.



AJ7:RW2386 U01:SA08 X1 010981

AVOID TRACTOR RUNAWAY

Avoid possible injury or death from a machine runaway.

1. Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals. Machine will start in gear and move if normal starting circuitry is bypassed.
2. Start engine only from operator's seat with transmission in neutral or park. NEVER start engine while standing on ground.

U01,SA09 XI 010991

AVOID EXHAUST FUMES

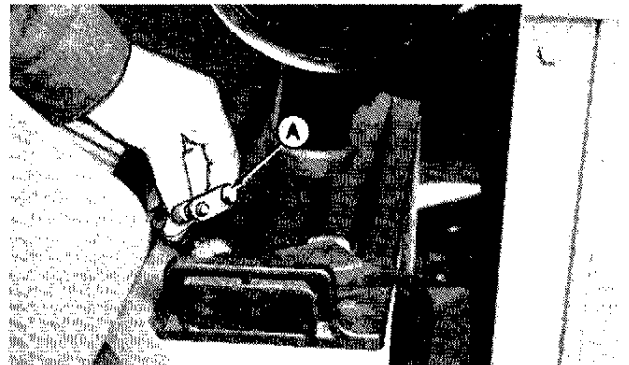
To avoid exhaust gas hazards, never run engine in a closed building.

U01,SA10 XI 010991

SERVICE TRACTOR SAFELY

Do not service the tractor while it is in motion or while the engine is running.

Disconnect the battery ground cable (A) before working on the electrical system or working in any area where you might accidentally contact electrical components.



AJZRW2388 U01,SA11 XI 010991

AVOID EXPLOSIONS OR FIRE

Before using booster batteries, read the instructions on page 24.

Before connecting or disconnecting a battery charger, turn the charger off to avoid sparks.

Be careful with any type of fuel. Do not refuel the tractor when the engine is hot or running. Never smoke while handling fuel.

A fire extinguisher can be mounted to your tractor. It is available from your John Deere dealer. Be sure to see the owners manual packaged with the extinguisher for operation and service instructions.

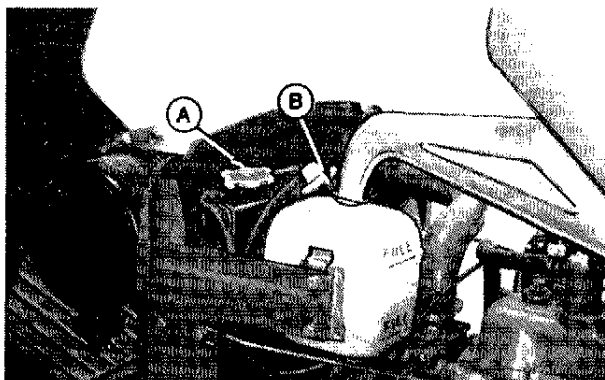


AJ7:RW2389 U01:5A12 X1 010961

SERVICE COOLING SYSTEM SAFELY

Under normal circumstances, radiator cap (A) should not be removed. Add coolant to cooling system through coolant recovery tank (B).

If radiator cap must be removed, do not remove it when engine is hot. Shut the engine off and wait until it cools. Then turn the cap to the first stop to relieve pressure before removing it completely.

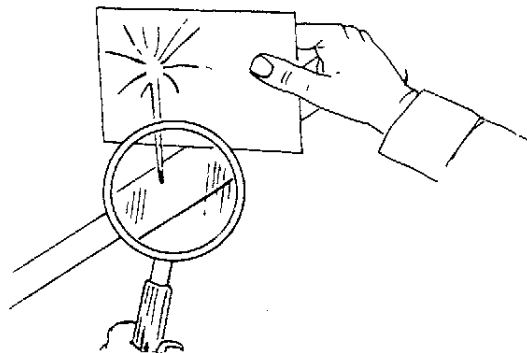


AJ7:RW2389 U01:5A13 X1 010961

AVOID HIGH-PRESSURE FLUIDS

Escaping fluid under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin, causing serious injury. Before disconnecting lines, be sure to relieve pressure. Before applying pressure, be sure connections are tight and lines, pipes and hoses are not damaged. Use a piece of cardboard rather than hands, to search for leaks.

If injured by escaping fluid, see a doctor at once. Serious infection or reaction can develop if proper medical treatment is not administered immediately.

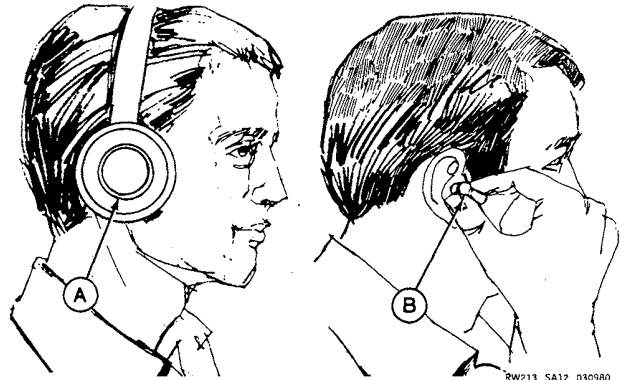


AJ7:RW212 U01:5A14 X1 010981

PROTECT AGAINST NOISE

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs (A) or earplugs (B) to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noises.



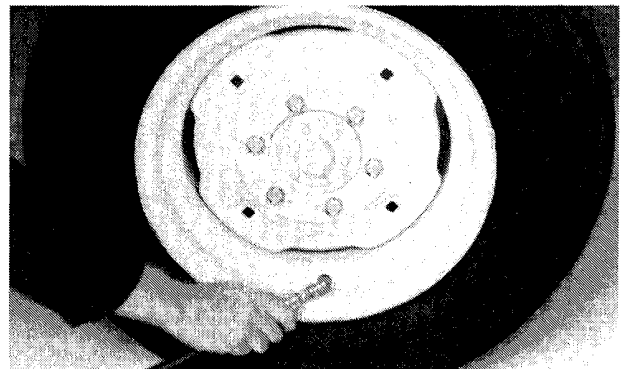
RW213 SA12 030980

SERVICE TIRES SAFELY

Failure to follow proper procedures when mounting a tire on a wheel or rim can produce an explosion which may result in serious injury or death. Do not attempt to mount a tire unless you have the proper equipment and experience to perform the job. Have it done by your John Deere dealer or a qualified tire repair service.

When sealing tire beads on rims, never exceed 240 kPa (2.4 bar) (35 psi) or maximum inflation pressures specified by tire manufacturers for mounting tires. Inflation beyond this maximum pressure may break the bead, or even the rim, with dangerous explosive force. If both beads are not seated when the maximum recommended pressure is reached, deflate, reposition tire, relubricate bead, and reinflate.

Detailed agricultural tire mounting instructions, including necessary safety precautions, are contained in John Deere Fundamentals of Service (FOS) Manual 55, Tires and Tracks, available through your John Deere dealer. Such information is also available from the Rubber Manufacturers Association and from tire manufacturers.

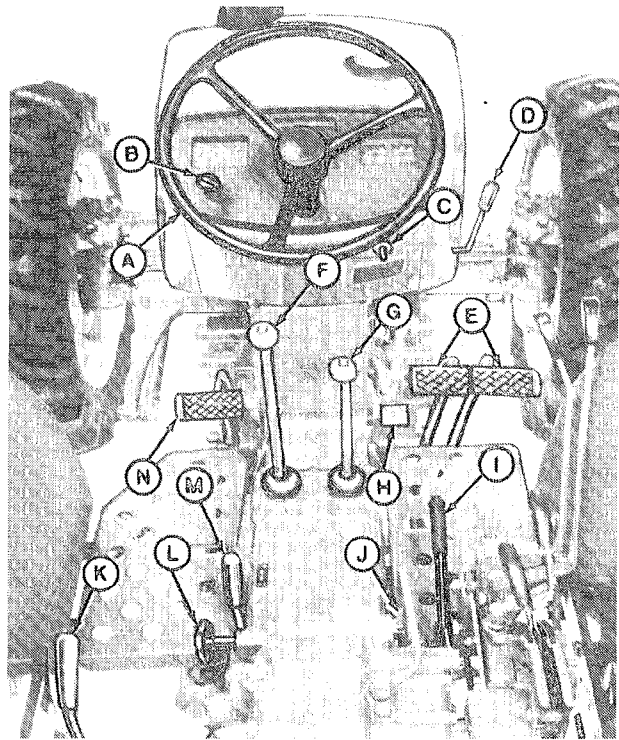


AJ7:RW2391 U01:SA16 X1 010981

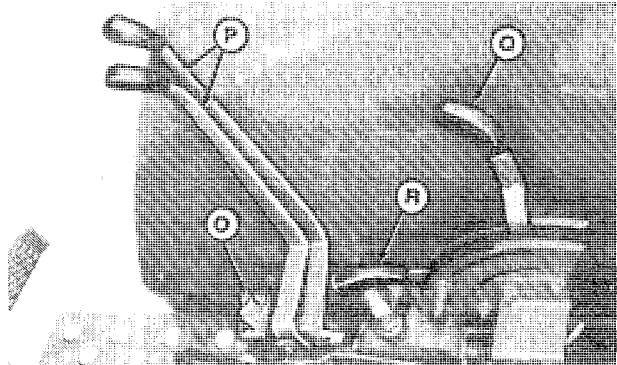
Controls and Instruments

LOCATE TRACTOR CONTROLS

- A—Steering Wheel
- B—Light Switch
- C—Key Switch
- D—Hand Throttle
- E—Brake Pedals
- F—Gear Shift Lever
- G—Range Shift Lever
- H—Foot Throttle
- I—Hand Brake
- J—Rockshaft Rate-of-drop Valve
- K—PTO Control Lever
- L—Hydraulic Stop Valve
- M—Front-Wheel Drive Shift Lever
- N—Clutch Pedal



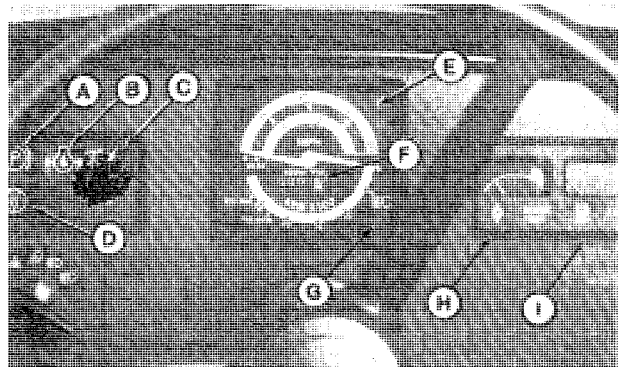
- O—Differential Lock Pedal
- P—SCV Control Levers (Field Option)
- Q—Rockshaft Position Control Lever
- R—Rockshaft Draft Control Lever



AJB/RW2393, RW2394 U01;C101 X1 020981

LOCATE TRACTOR INSTRUMENTS

- A—Parking Brake Indicator
- B—Engine Oil Pressure Indicator
- C—Charging System Indicator
- D—Air Restriction Indicator
(Sender is a Field Option)
- E—Tach-Hourmeter
- F—Hour Meter
- G—High Beam Indicator
- H—Coolant Temperature Gauge
- I—Fuel Gauge



AJB/RW2393 U01;C102 X1 020981

CHECK INSTRUMENTS OFTEN

Leave key switch on while operating tractor so instruments and gauges will function. Check indicator lamps (A) each time engine is started to be sure they work.



AJB,RW2396 U01,C103 X1 020981

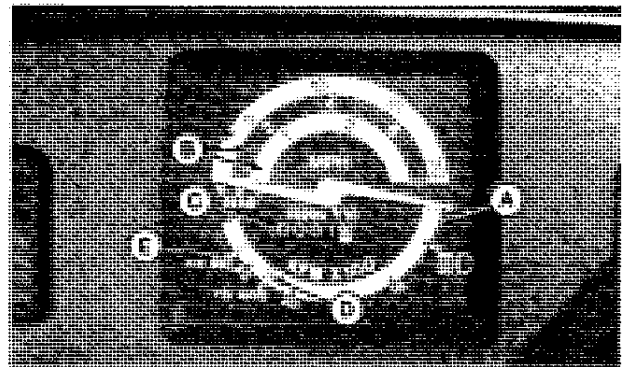
WORKING WITH SPEED-HOUR METER

The speed-hour meter shows engine speed in rpm (A) and travel speed (B) in third, sixth, and ninth gear. It also shows hours of operation (C) in full hours and tenths.

PTO speed is monitored with the tachometer. "PTO RATED" mark (D) indicates an engine speed of 2295 rpm. When tach needle is aligned with this mark, PTO speed is 540 rpm.

"PTO MAX" mark (E) indicates a 10 percent overspeed of PTO and is maximum engine speed for use in PTO operations.

IMPORTANT: Never exceed indicated PTO max speed when PTO is engaged.



A—Engine Speed
B—Travel Speed
C—Hour Meter

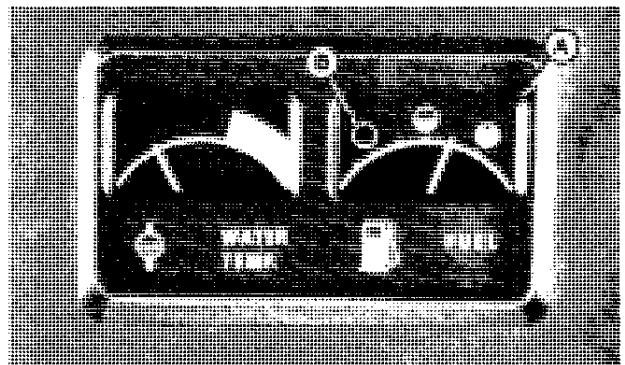
D—"PTO RATED" Mark
E—"PTO MAX" Mark

AJB,RW2397 U01,C104 X1 020981

WATCH FUEL LEVEL

Stop to refuel before gauge (A) reaches empty mark (B). Do not allow a diesel engine to run out of fuel.

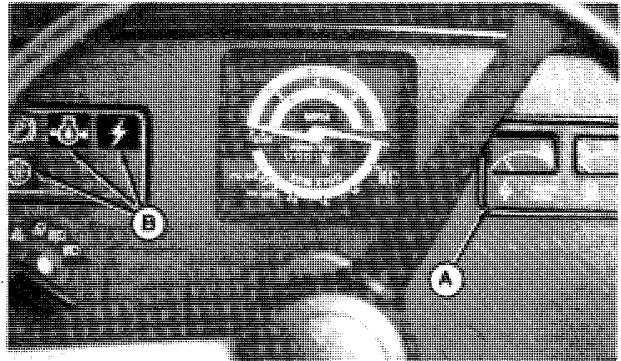
IMPORTANT: Use diesel fuel only. See Fuel and Lubricants section page 60 for fuel specifications.



AJB,RW2398 U01,C105 X1 181161

WATCH ENGINE INSTRUMENTS

IMPORTANT: If any engine instrument (A) or lamps (B) indicates a problem, stop the engine and determine the cause.

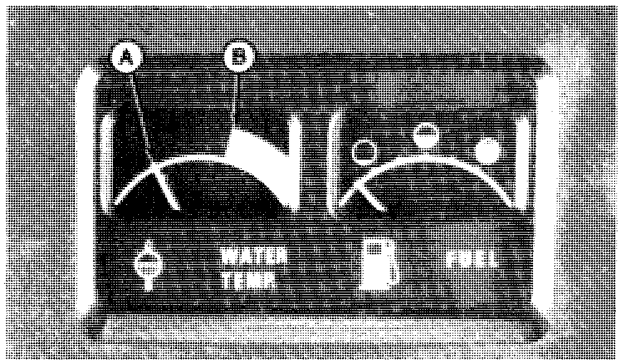


AJ8/RW2399 U01;C106 X1 020981

WATCH COOLANT TEMPERATURE

Coolant temperature gauge needle (A) should rise as engine warms up. If needle reaches red zone (B), stop and determine the cause.

Check coolant level in coolant recovery tank and radiator when engine cools. Also check grille, radiator and radiator screen for plugging. Check fan belt tension.

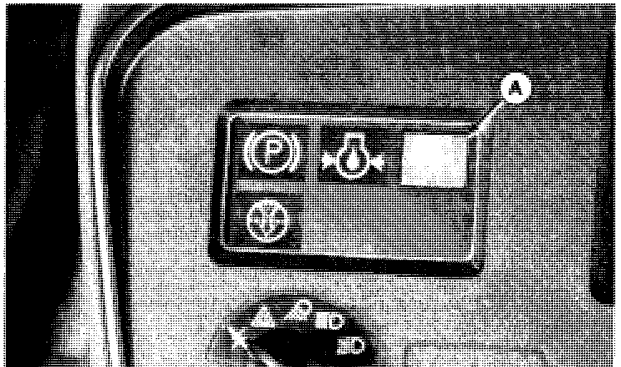


AJ8/RW2400 U01;C107 X1 020981

CHECK CHARGING SYSTEM INDICATOR

Charging system lamp (A) will glow when alternator output falls too low. Lamp should glow when key is turned to engage starter, and go out when engine starts.

If lamp glows longer than five seconds in normal operation, stop engine and check for cause. If loose fan belt is not the cause, see your John Deere dealer.



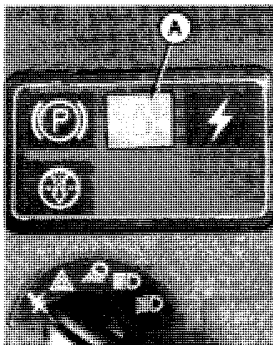
AJ8/RW2401 U01;C108 X1 020981

CHECK OIL PRESSURE INDICATOR

Oil pressure lamp (A) will glow if engine oil pressure falls too low. Lamp should glow when key is turned to engage starter, and go out when engine starts.

If lamp glows longer than five seconds under normal operating conditions, stop engine and check for cause. If low oil level is not the problem, see your John Deere dealer.

IMPORTANT: Never operate an engine without sufficient oil pressure.

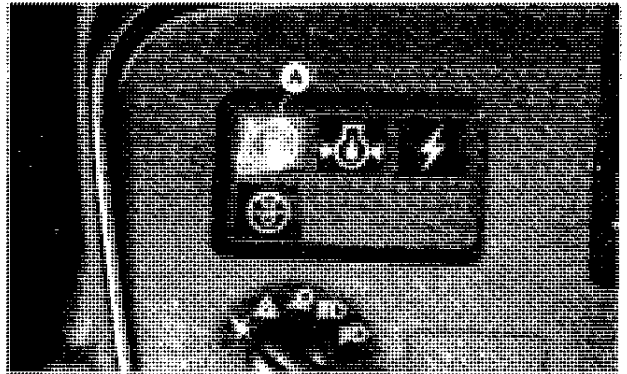


AJ8/RW2402 U01;C109 X1 020981

CHECK HANDBRAKE OPERATION

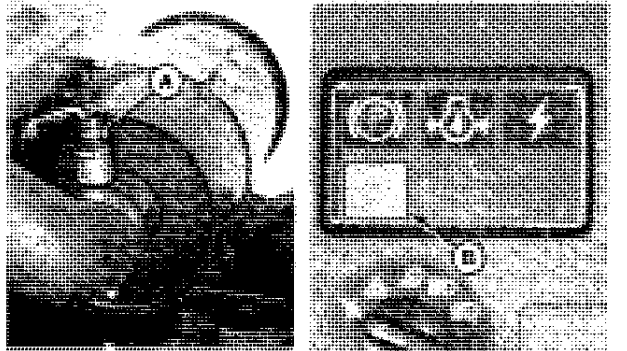
Hand brake lamp (A) should glow anytime handbrake is set.

Lamp should go out when brake is released. IF not, see adjustment in Service section, page 101.



CHECK AIR RESTRICTION INDICATOR (Optional)

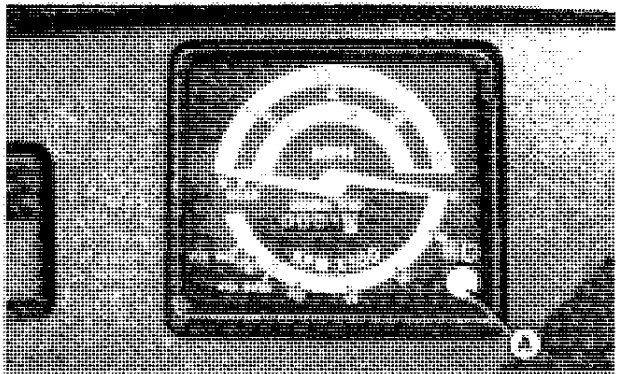
If tractor is equipped with air restriction sender (A), air restriction lamp (B) should glow if air cleaner becomes plugged. Plan to service air cleaner as soon as possible.



AJ8, RW2464, RW2465 U01;C111 X1 090981

CHECK HIGH BEAM INDICATOR

High beam lamp (A) should glow when light switch is turned to "H1" position. Bright head lamps, tail lamp and warning lamps should be on.



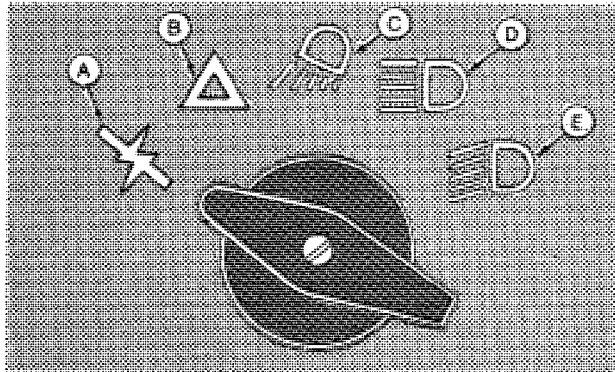
AJ8, RW2464, RW2465 U01;C111 X1 090981

Lighting and Signals

LIGHT SWITCH POSITIONS

Tractor light switch has five positions:

- (A)—Turns off all lamps
- (B)—Turns on warning lamps only. For driving on highway during daytime.
- (C)—Turns on bright head lamps and rear flood lamp. For field use only. Do not use on roads. Flood lamp might blind or confuse other drivers.
- (D)—Turns on bright head lamps, tail lamp, and warning lamps. For highway driving during daytime or night-time.
- (E)—Turns on dim head lamps, tail lamp, and warning lamps. Turn switch to this position before meeting other vehicles.



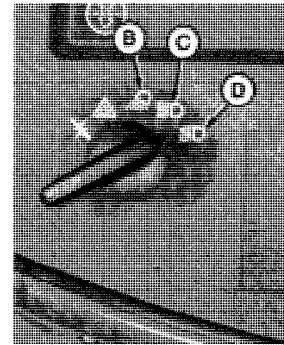
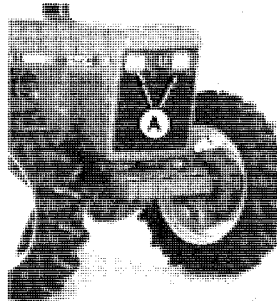
AE5;RW380 U01;LS01 X1 310801

USING HEAD LAMPS

Dual-beam head lamps (A) are switched on by either "flood lamp" (B), "bright head lamp" (C), or "dim head lamp" (D) light switch position.

Always dim head lamps before meeting another vehicle.

- A—Head Lamps
- B—Flood Lamp
- C—Bright Head Lamp
- D—Dim Head Lamp

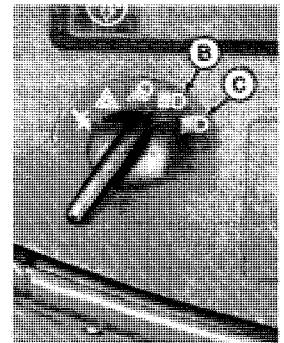
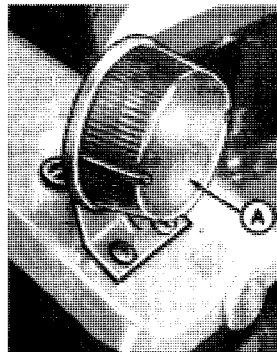


AE5;RW3085,RW3086 U01;LS02 X1 310881

USING TAIL LAMP

Red tail lamp (A) is switched on by either "bright head lamp" (B), or "dim head lamp" (C) light switch position.

Be sure tail lamp lens is clean before driving on a road, so other drivers can see it easily.

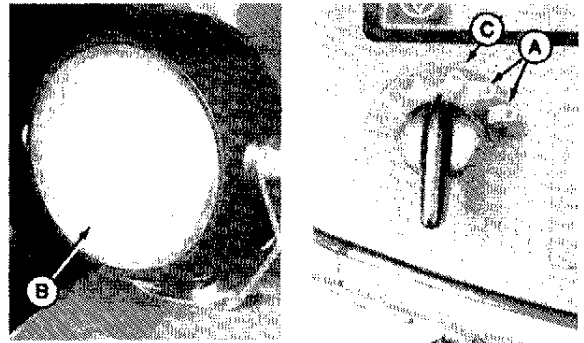


AE5;RW3087,RW3088 U01;LS03 X1 310881

USE FLOOD LAMP

⚠ CAUTION: When operating on a road, move light switch to either "head lamp" position (A). Never use flood lamps or any lamps which would blind or confuse other drivers.

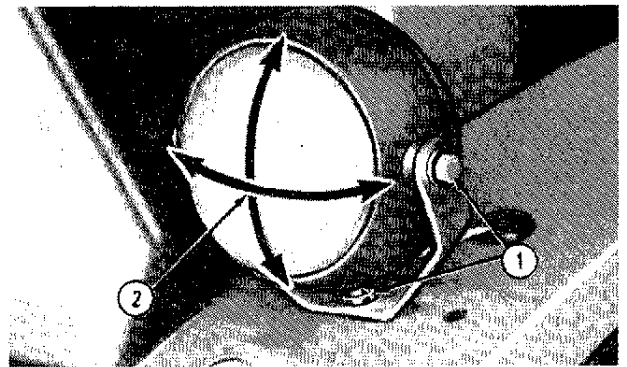
Rear flood lamp (B) is switched on by "flood lamp" (C) light switch position.



AES:RW3089,RW3090 U01:L504 X1 310881

ADJUST FLOOD LAMP

1. Loosen mounting bolts.
2. Turn or tilt flood lamp to desired position.
3. Retighten bolts securely.



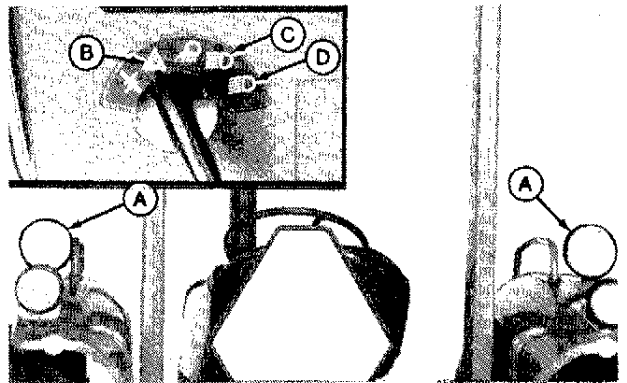
AES:RW3091 U01:L505 X1 310881

USE WARNING LAMPS

⚠ CAUTION: Always use warning lamps (A) when operating tractor on a road.

Warning lamps are switched on by either "warning lamp" (B), "bright head lamp" (C), or "dim head lamp" (D) light switch position.

- A—Warning Lamps
- B—Warning Lamp
- C—Bright Head Lamp
- D—Dim Head Lamp



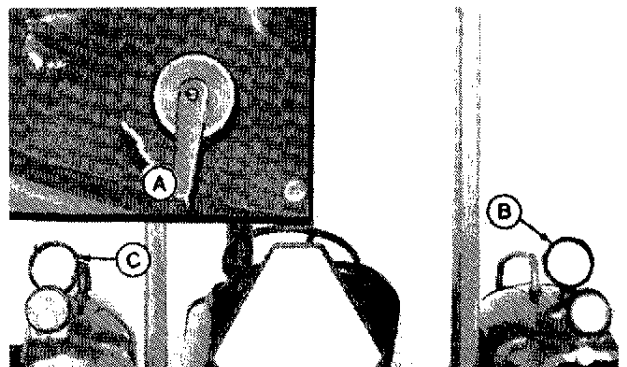
AES:RW3092 U01:L506 X1 310881

USE TURN SIGNALS (OPTIONAL)

A turn signal kit is available from your John Deere dealer.

When turn signal lever is moved to desired turn position (A), warning lamp on that side (B) of tractor flashes. Warning lamp on opposite side (C) of tractor goes on solid.

NOTE: Be sure to return lever to center position after turning.

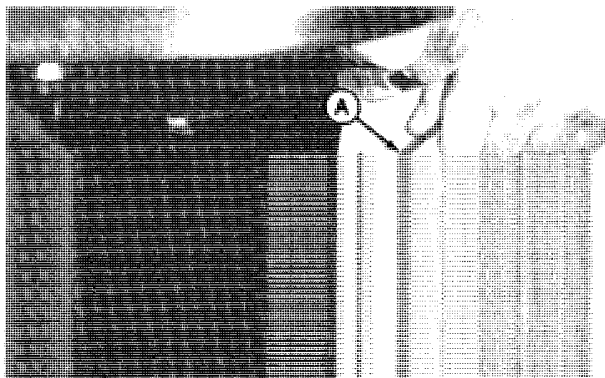


AES:RW3093 U01:L507 X1 310881

Operator's Station

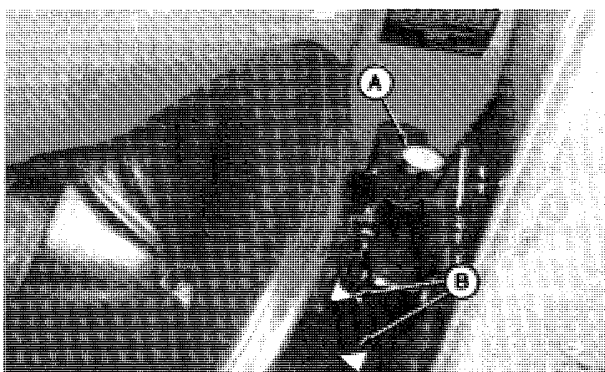
SELECT SEAT POSITION

Lift latch (A) and slide seat to desired position.



ADJUST SEAT SUSPENSION

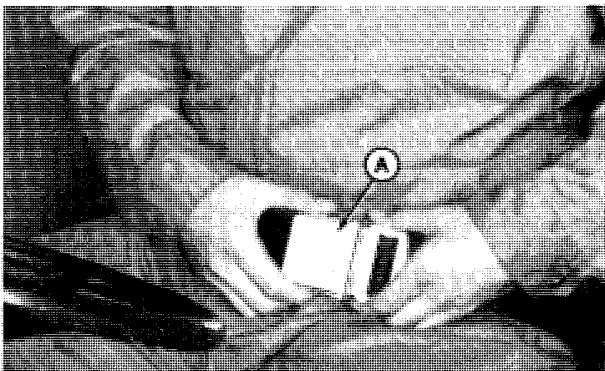
With operator seated, turn adjusting knob (A) to align pointers (B). When pointers are aligned, seat suspension system has full vertical travel range.



USE OF SEAT BELT

⚠ CAUTION: If tractor is equipped with a ROLL-GARD protective frame, use the seat belt (A) under almost all operating conditions.

Use of a seat belt is not recommended for tractors without a rollover protective device.

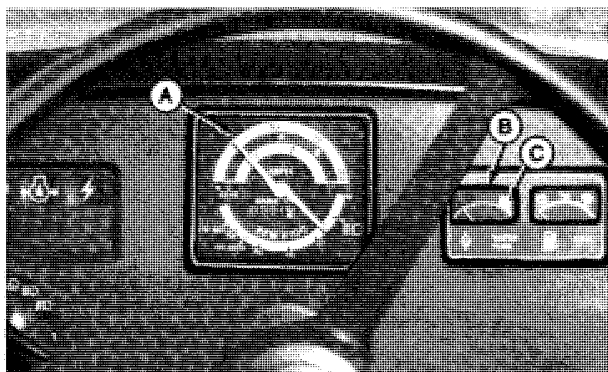


Engine Break-In

OBSERVE ENGINE OPERATION CLOSELY

IMPORTANT: The engine is ready for normal operation. Be extra cautious during the first 100 hours, until you become thoroughly familiar with the sound and feel of your new tractor. Stay extra attentive and alert.

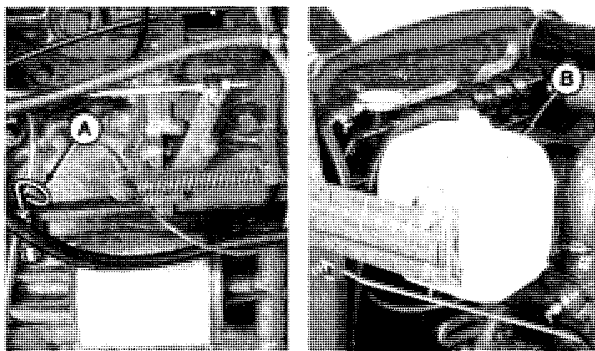
1. Avoid unnecessary engine idling (A). If tractor will be idle longer than 5 minutes, stop the engine.
2. Watch coolant temperature gauge (B) closely. If indicator needle reaches red zone (C), shift to a lower gear or reduce load. Unless temperature quickly drops, stop the engine and determine the cause.



AK1;RW2412 U01;EB01 X1 020981

3. Check engine oil and coolant levels frequently. Check engine oil level with dipstick (A). Check coolant level in coolant recovery tank (B). Watch for any signs of leaks.

If oil must be added during first 50 hours, use oil meeting specifications. See Engine Oils, page 61.

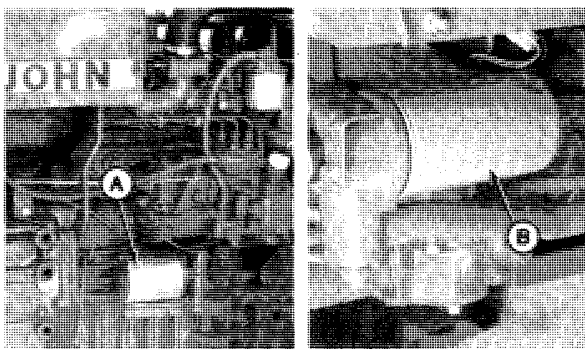


AK1;RW2413,RW2414 U01;EB02 X1 181181

PERFORM BREAK-IN SERVICE

1. Change engine oil and filter (A) after first 50 hours and again after 100 hours.
2. After 100 hours change transmission-hydraulic oil and filter (B). Clean transmission filter screen.

See instructions in Lubrication and Maintenance section, and perform 10 and 50 hour maintenance schedule.



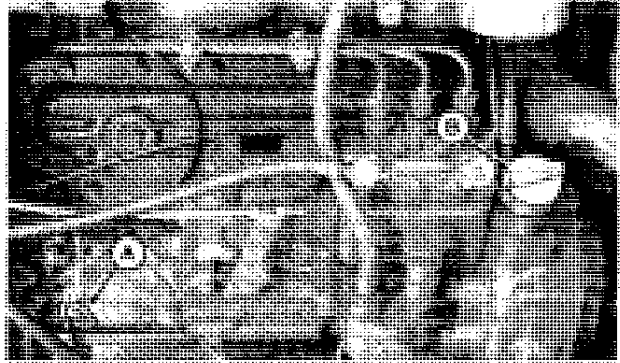
AK1;RW2415,RW2416 U01;EB03 X1 020981

Prestarting Checks

Do the following checks before starting the engine for the first time each day:

1. Check the engine oil level. Wipe dipstick (A) off and reinsert it fully. Remove and locate oil level.

Safe operating range is between two marks on dipstick. Do not operate engine when oil level is below lower mark on dipstick. Add oil through filler hole (B). See Fuels and Lubricants for oil specifications.



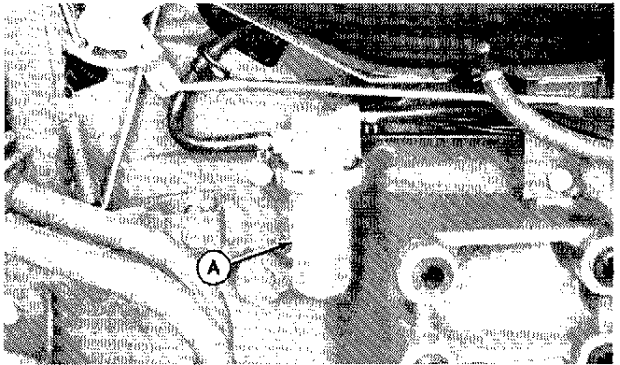
AK1:RW2416 U01:PC01 X1 010981

2. Check coolant level in recovery tank. If engine is cool and level is below "LOW" mark, add coolant to recovery tank to bring level to "FULL" mark.



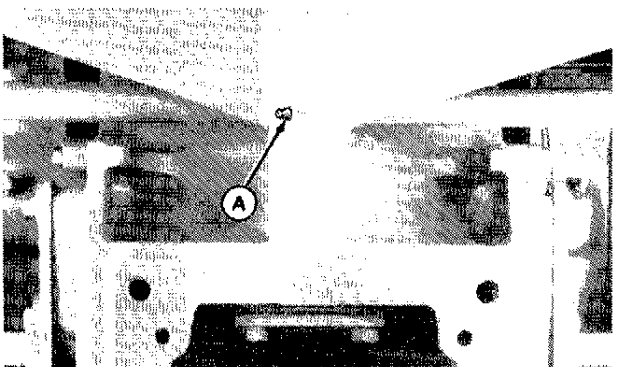
AK1:RW2419 U01:PC02 X1 010981

3. Check fuel filter sediment bowl (A). If water or sediment is present, remove and clean. Refer to Lubrication and Maintenance section.



AK1:RW2420 U01:PC03 X1 010981

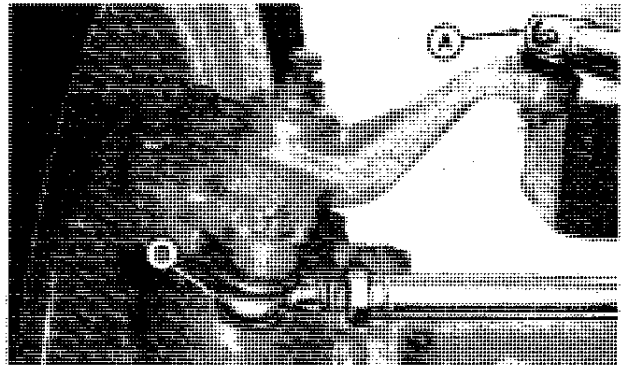
4. Lubricate front axle pivot pin (A) with several shots of grease.



AK1:RW2421 U01:PC04 X1 010981

Prestarting Checks

5. Lubricate drag link ends (A) and tie rod ends (B) with several shots of grease.



AKLRW2422 U01:PC05 X1 0109B1



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Operating The Engine

BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE

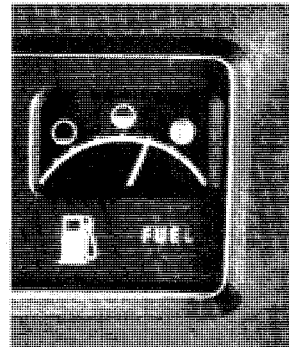
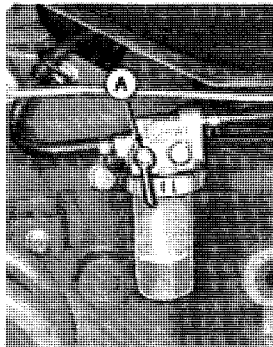
CAUTION: Before starting engine, be sure there is plenty of ventilation.

NOTE: If temperature is below 5°C (40°F), it may be necessary to use a Cold Weather Starting Aid. Refer to page 23.

U01,0E01 X1 181181

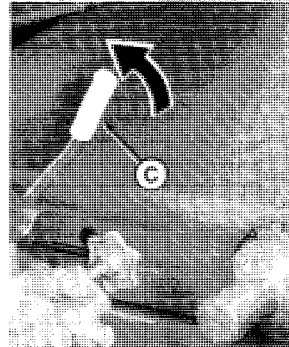
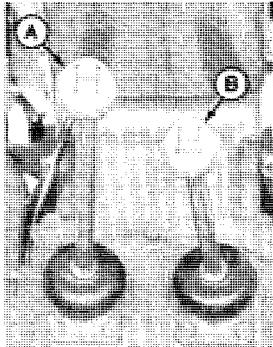
STARTING THE ENGINE

1. If fuel shut-off valve (A) is closed, open it. Valve is shown in open position.
2. Check fuel gauge to be sure tractor has plenty of fuel.



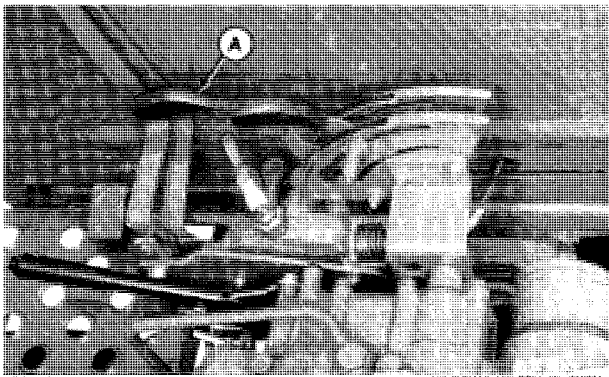
AK2,RW3008,RW3009 U01,0E02 X1 010981

3. Place gear shift lever (A), range shift lever (B), and PTO lever (C) in neutral positions. Starter will not operate if gear shift lever and PTO lever are not in neutral.



AK2,RW3010,RW3011 U01,0E03 X1 010981

4. Place rockshaft control lever (A) in lower position.



AK2,RW3012,RW3013 U01,0E04 X1 010981

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