

**AERCORE®
1000 and 1500
Tractor-Mounted
Aerators**
(Serial No. 010001 –)

**OPERATOR'S
MANUAL**

**John Deere
Lawn & Grounds Care Division
OMMT3166 I6**

North American Version
Litho in U.S.A
English

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Safety	1
Preparing the Vehicle	4
Installing	6
Removing	11
Operating	13
Replacement Parts	33
Service Machine Safely	35
Service	37
Troubleshooting	57
Storing Machine	58
Assembly	60
Specifications	62
Index	72
John Deere Service Literature	77

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

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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.

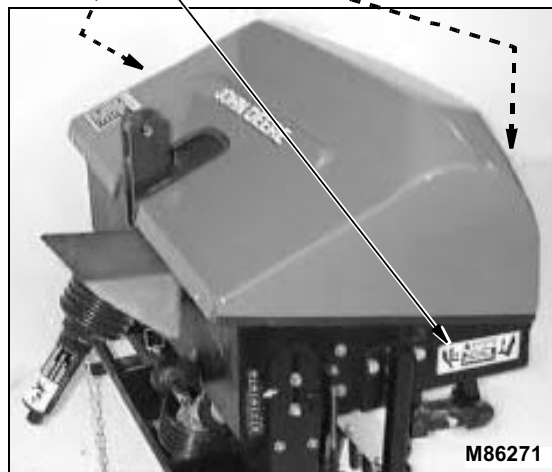


Machine Safety Labels



(on both sides of frame and rear)

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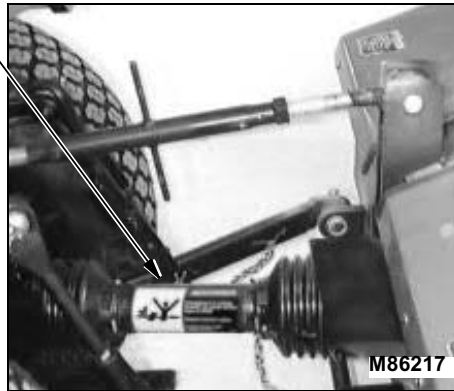


M86271

SAFETY SIGNS



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SAFETY SIGNS



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PREPARING THE VEHICLE

Tractor Requirements

NOTE: The AERCORE® aerators are compatible with John Deere 855, 955, 770, 870, 970 and 1070 compact utility tractor models. The AERCORE 1000 is compatible with 11 kW minimum (15 hp minimum) tractors. The AERCORE 1500 is compatible with 16.5 kW minimum (25 hp minimum) tractors.

1. Inflate tractor tires to correct pressure according to the tractor operator manual.
2. Requirements for all tractors:
 - Proper ballast.
 - 540 rpm tractor PTO.
 - Category I, 3-point hitch. (Conversion kits are available to allow hook-up to tractors with a Category II, 3-point hitch).
3. A speed control kit is recommended for the 855 and 955 compact utility tractors. Order the control kit from your John Deere dealer.

PREPARING THE VEHICLE

Ballasting Requirements



CAUTION: Help to prevent bodily injury. Proper front tractor ballast is required when installing the AERCORE aerators to any tractor to provide stability. Refer to the chart or your tractor operator manual for ballasting information.

NOTE: The ballast information is for John Deere compact utility tractors. The AERCORE 1500 is not recommended for installation on the 770 or 855 tractors. The front weight bracket extension kit is necessary to hold suitcase weights needed for proper ballast.

Tractor Model	Aerator Model	Required Front Ballast
770, 855	AERCORE 1000	9 suitcase weights* [171.5 kg. (378 lb.)]
870, 970, 1070	AERCORE 1500	12 suitcase weights* [228.6 kg. (504 lb.)]
955	AERCORE 1500	9 suitcase weights* [171.5 kg. (378 lb.)]

*Standard John Deere suitcase weight.

INSTALLING

SAFETY



CAUTION: Help to avoid bodily injury. Install proper ballast on tractor before operating the aerator.

Connecting Draft Links

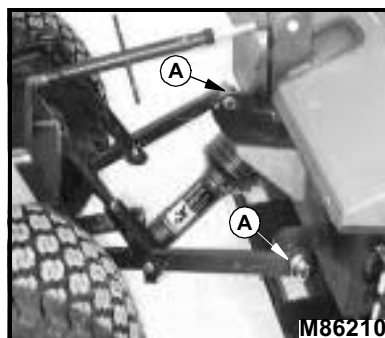
1. Aerator must be sitting on a level surface for installation.
2. Back tractor up to aerator so hitch points are aligned with aerator.



CAUTION: Before working around hitch:

- Stop engine.
- Lock park brake.

3. Make sure PTO is disengaged.
4. Engage parking brake, STOP the engine, and remove key. Wait for engine and all moving parts to STOP before leaving operator's seat.
5. Connect right and left draft links (A) to hitch pins.
6. Install quik-lock pins to hitch pins to secure draft links.



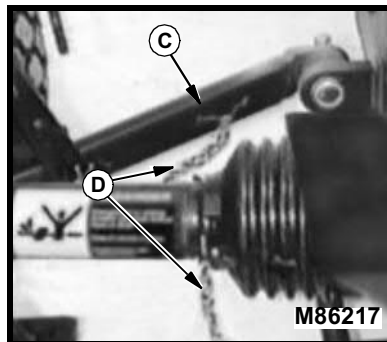
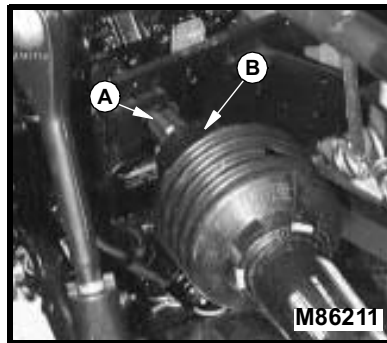
INSTALLING

Connecting PTO Powershaft



CAUTION: Help prevent bodily injury. Keep all PTO shields in place and connect shield chains to draft links to prevent shields from rotating during operation.

1. Connect powershaft to rear tractor PTO shaft (A).
2. Slide powershaft forward as far as it will go.
3. Pull back on collar (B) to fasten powershaft in place.
4. Slide powershaft back and forth to make sure powershaft is properly locked.
5. Connect shield safety chains (D) from powershaft sections to welded clips (C) on draft links.

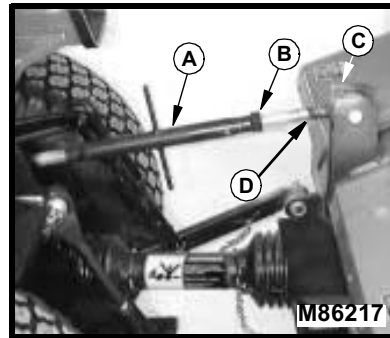


INSTALLING

Connecting Center Link

NOTE: Aerator MUST angle forward slightly while operating for best aeration hole quality. The support legs are designed to provide the necessary angle during installation.

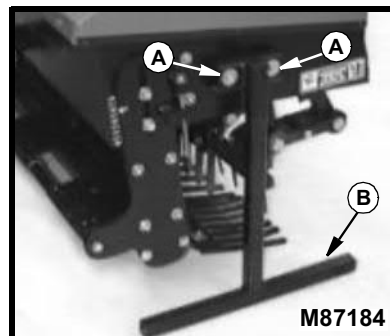
1. Connect center link (D) to mast bracket (C) and fasten with headed pin and Quik-Lock pin.
2. Turn adjusting link (A) to tighten the link. Do not overtighten to raise the back end of the aerator off the ground.
3. Tighten locking nut (B) to adjusting link to lock center link into position.



Removing Support Legs

NOTE: Support legs must be installed to aerator before removing from tractor for servicing or storage.

1. Raise aerator to TRANSPORT position.
2. Remove two bolts (A) on both sides and remove support legs (B) from aerator.



INSTALLING

Adjusting Sway Chains

NOTE: Instructions to adjust the sway chains are written for the 3-point hitch installed on 55 Series Compact Utility tractors. Refer to your tractor operator manual if different for the correct installation procedure.

1. Adjust sway chains on lower draft arms of 3-point hitch to minimize side-to-side sway to a maximum of 25 mm (1 in.) on each side.

2. To adjust sway chains:

- Remove yokes (A) from lower draft arms.
- Thread eyebolts (B) into yokes as needed and install yokes to draft arms.
- If sway cannot be properly adjusted by threading eyebolts, refer to tractor operator manual.



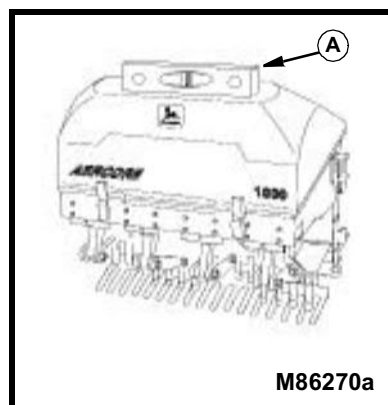
INSTALLING

Adjusting For Level Side-to-Side

IMPORTANT: Aerator **MUST** be level and parallel with the ground to provide superior hole quality.

NOTE: Instructions to level the aerator are written for the 3-point hitch installed on 55 Series Compact Utility tractors. Refer to your tractor operator manual if different for the correct installation procedure.

1. Park tractor and aerator on a level, firm surface.
2. Place level (A) on top of hood to check for level side-to-side.



3. Turn right-hand lift link body (B) to raise or lower the draft link until the aerator is leveled side-to-side.



REMOVING

SAFETY

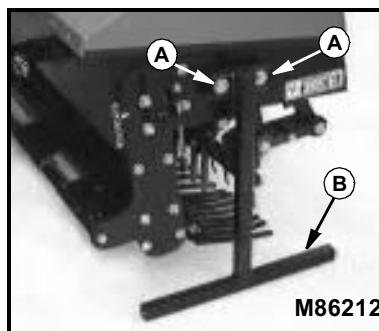
Park Vehicle Safely

- 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.

Installing Support Legs

IMPORTANT: Support legs must be installed to aerator before removing from tractor for servicing or storage. DO NOT sit aerator on ground without using support legs or the tines may be damaged.

1. Install support leg (B) on each side with two hex bolts (A). Bolt size is 12.7 mm x 38 mm (.5 x 1.5 in.).
2. Lower aerator so support legs are sitting on a hard, level surface.

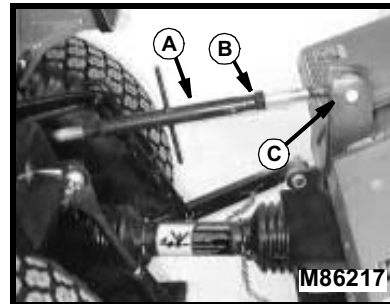


REMOVING

Removing Center Link

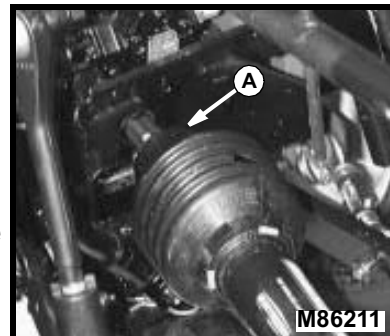
IMPORTANT: Aerator **MUST** be resting on support legs or blocks before removing center link.

1. Loosen locking nut (B).
2. Turn adjusting link (A) to release tension between aerator and tractor.
3. Disconnect center link from mast bracket by removing Quik-Lock pin and headed pin (C).



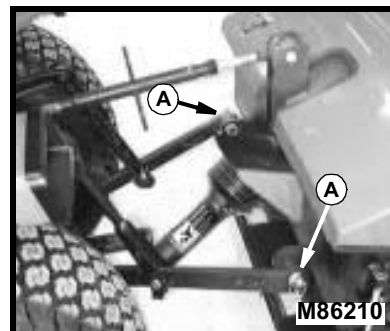
Removing Powershaft

1. Disconnect shield safety chains from lower draft links.
2. Pull back at collar (A) to disconnect powershaft from tractor PTO shaft.
3. Slide powershaft back and remove from tractor.



Removing Draft Links

1. Remove Quik-Lock pins (A) and remove draft links from hitch pins.



OPERATING

SAFETY

Operate Safely



- Install proper ballast on the tractor before operating aerator.
- Check vehicle brake action before you operate. Adjust or service brakes as necessary.
- Inspect aerator 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 tractor, shut off the engine and inspect it. Make repairs before you operate. Keep aerator properly maintained and in good working order.
- DO NOT leave aerator unattended when it is running.
- Only operate during daylight or with good artificial light.
- DO NOT let anyone, especially children, ride on machine or vehicle.
- DO NOT let children or an untrained person operate machine.
- Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating the machine. Safe operation requires your full attention.

Be Familiar With The Work Area

- Identify locations of buried irrigation and electrical cables.
- Identify locations of sprinkler heads, fairway markers and other obstacles.



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OPERATING

Avoid Tipping

- DO NOT drive where machine could slip or tip.
- When pulling loads or using heavy equipment, 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.



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.
- DO NOT STEP over PTO driveline. Walk around aerator to get to other side.



Avoid Injury From Moving Parts

Keep hands, feet, clothing and other objects away from moving parts.

Do not attempt to remove any obstruction while aerator is in motion.



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