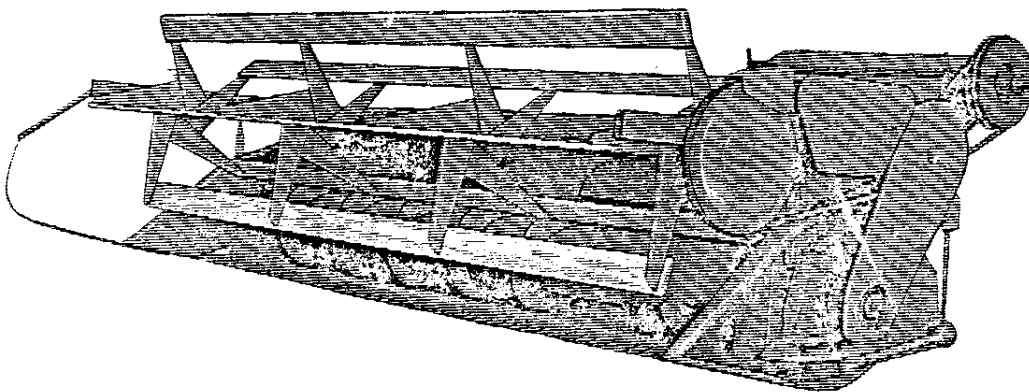




**John Deere**  
**Cutting Parts for**  
**6601 Combine Platform**

**Operator's Manual**  
**OM-H84540**  
**Issue D2**






## To the Purchaser

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This operator's manual contains information to install, operate, adjust, and service your John Deere 6601 Combine Cutting Platform. Follow the recommendations in this manual and you will obtain maximum service and efficiency from this equipment.

 This safety alert symbol identifies 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.

Study this manual carefully and keep it handy in a safe place for future reference.

If you find you need information not covered in this manual, see your John Deere dealer. He will be glad to answer any question that may arise regarding operation and service of this equipment. He has trained mechanics who are kept informed on the best methods of John Deere servicing and can give you prompt know-how service in the field or in his shop.

Should you require replacement parts, go to your John Deere dealer where you will receive genuine John Deere parts—accept no substitutes.

John Deere parts fit properly and insure satisfactory service because they are made from the same material as used in new machines.

Information concerning warranty on this equipment appears on your copy of the delivery receipt which you should have received from your dealer when the equipment was delivered to you.



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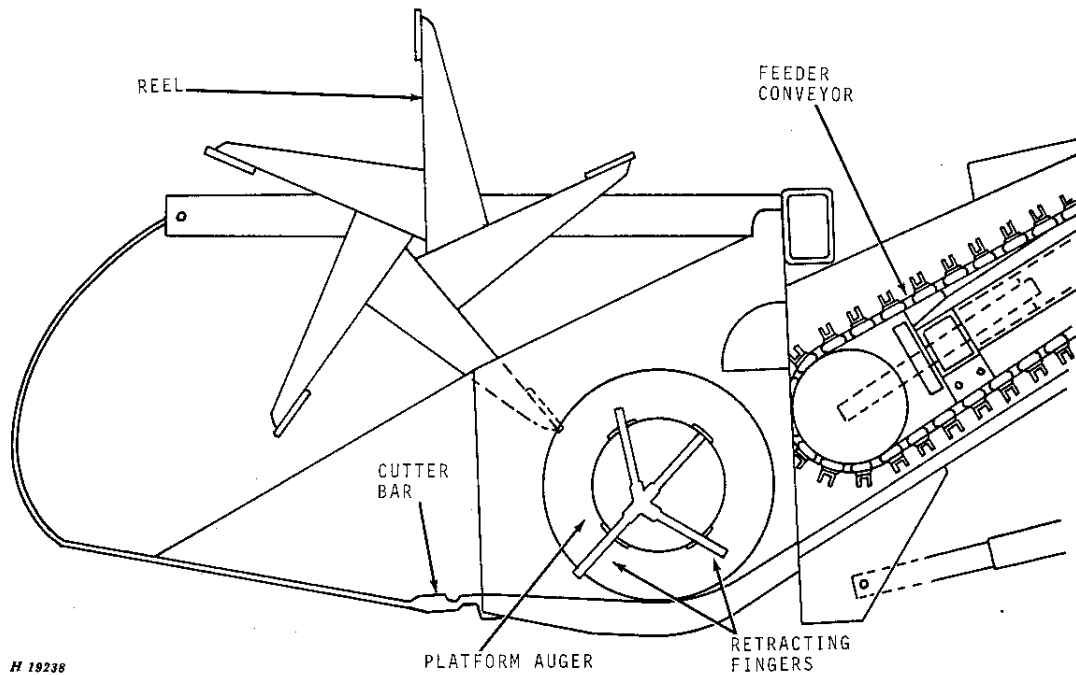
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# Operation



## CUTTERBAR

The cutterbar is basically a multiple series of shears. To cut properly, the knife must run smoothly in the cutterbar, and every knife section must rest on the guard in position to make a shear cut. This means that the guards (page 10), wearing plates (page 10), and knife clips (page 10) must be in good condition and set correctly. If these parts become loose or

worn, the knife will chew and tear the crop instead of cutting it.

To prevent poor cutting and frequent clogging, always keep the knife properly registered (page 9).

Do not run the cutterbar closer to the ground than necessary to cut all the crop. Keep the cutterbar aligned at all times (page 11).

## REEL

Reel slats gather the crop, hold it until it is cut by the knife, and then move it into the platform auger. Keep the reel level, at proper height, and at proper speed to feed the cut material uniformly and steadily to the platform auger.

Set reel so the slats, in their lowest position, strike just below the lowest grain heads and slightly ahead of the knife.

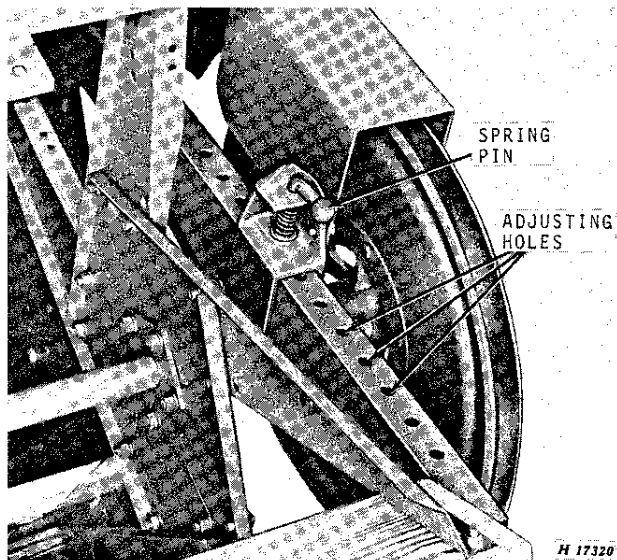
In crops that are down and badly tangled, set the reel so it will just clear the knife and platform auger. In this position, the material is swept back into the platform auger.

Choose a reel speed to match the condition of the crop. Keep speed as fast as possible without shattering the grain or carrying the straw around over the top of the reel. Usually, slow ground travel speed requires a slow reel speed.

Adjust reel speed by repositioning the reel drive chain on different drive and driven sprockets (pages 4 and 5).

### Reel Adjustments

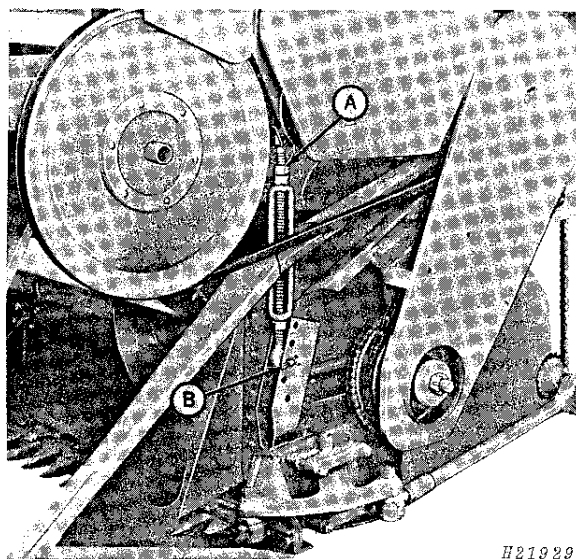
#### Forward or Rearward Adjustment



A series of holes is provided on the reel support arms so the reel can be moved forward or rearward. Lift up the spring pin, move the reel to desired position, and install pin. Be sure to adjust both sides evenly.

Check drive belt tension and adjust if necessary. Page 11.

#### Height Adjustment (Manual Control)



Reel arm turnbuckles, located at each end of cutting platform, are used to adjust the reel up or down. Loosen lock nut "A," turn turnbuckle, and tighten lock nut "A."

**CAUTION:** The reel arm is heavy and must be supported when removing pin.

The reel can also be adjusted by removing pin "B" and positioning to desired height.



be careful.....  
avoid accidents

X 1275

## 4 Operation

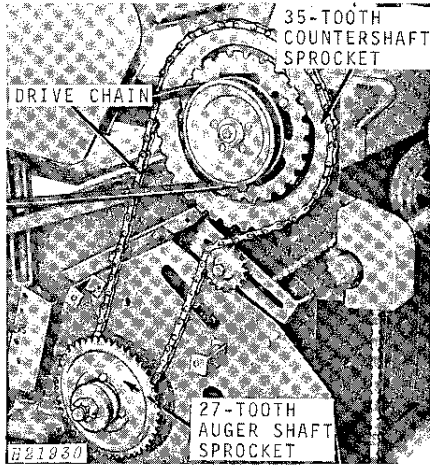
### Reel Speeds

Reel speed may be changed by positioning the drive chain on different combinations of drive sprockets on the auger shaft and driven sprockets on the countershaft. When changing the reel speed, always position the drive chain on the inside sprocket on the auger shaft. The two auger shaft sprockets are interchangeable to insure correct drive chain alignment

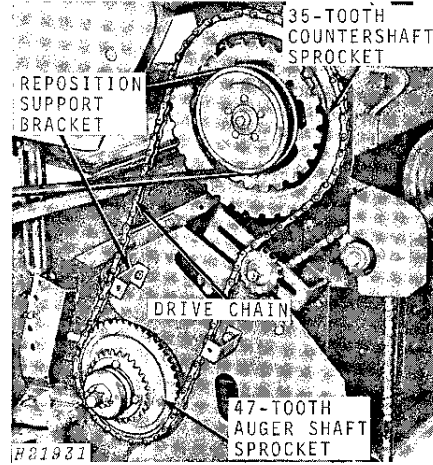
(page 5). The countershaft sprockets also must be positioned correctly (page 5).

Whenever the 47-tooth sprocket is used on the auger shaft, the front support bracket for the shield will have to be repositioned as shown below.

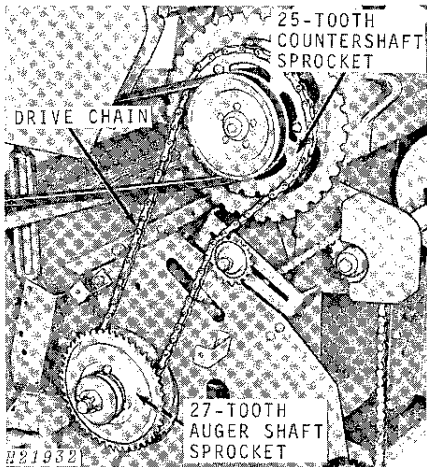
*NOTE: Shields have been removed for illustrative purposes.*



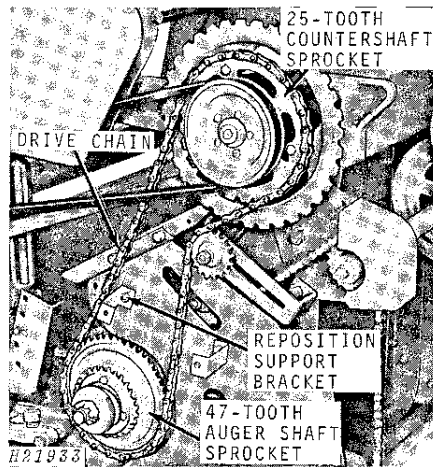
24.7 rpm



43.0 rpm



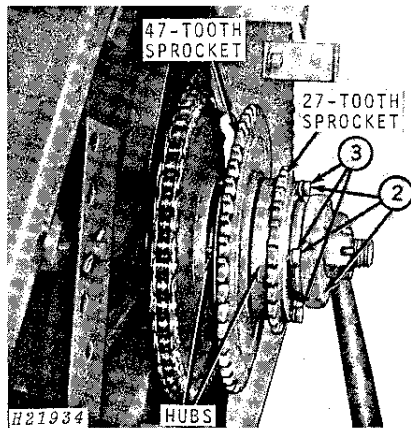
34.6 rpm



60.2 rpm

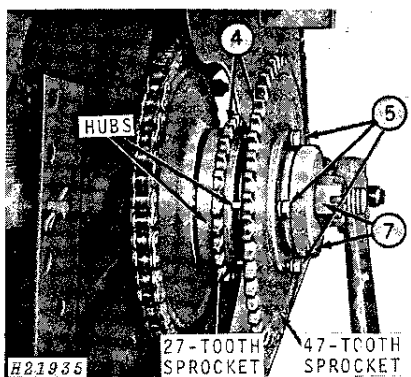
### Interchanging Auger Shaft Sprockets

1. (Not Illustrated) Remove reel drive shield and drive chain.



2. Remove cotter pin, castellated nut, and cup washer.

3. Remove four cap screws and slide both sprockets off the auger shaft.



4. Slide the desired sprocket on the shaft first with the wide hub in; then slide second sprocket on with the wide hub out.

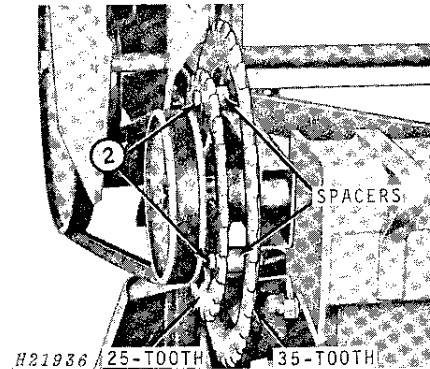
5. Install cap screws and tighten.

6. (Not Illustrated) Install drive chain (add or remove chain links as necessary) and adjust tension (page 11).

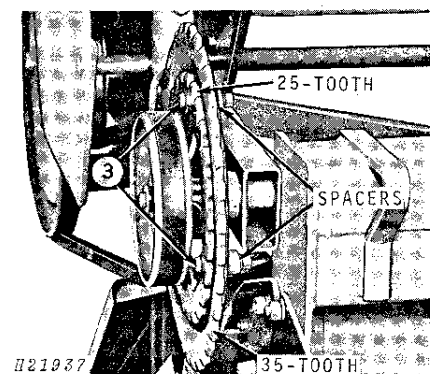
7. Install cup washer, castellated nut, and cotter pin. Install reel drive shield.

### Repositioning Countershaft Sprockets

1. (Not Illustrated) Remove reel drive shield and drive chain.



2. The illustration above shows the 25-tooth sprocket in drive position. To switch to the 35-tooth sprocket, remove three cap screws and spacers between the two sprockets.



3. Install cap screws with the spacers on the back side of the 35-tooth sprocket. Tighten cap screws.

4. (Not Illustrated) Install drive chain (add or remove links as necessary) and adjust tension (page 11). Install reel drive shield.

5. When returning to the 25-tooth sprocket, reposition the spacers between sprockets.



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## Safety Suggestions

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**!** Study these suggestions carefully and insist that they be followed by those working with you and for you.

All machinery should be operated only by responsible persons who have been delegated to do so.

Never clean, oil, or adjust the platform when it is running.

Clothing worn by operator should be fairly tight and belted. Loose jackets, shirts, or sleeves should never be worn because of the danger of getting into moving parts.

Make certain everyone is clear of the combine before starting the tractor engine so no one can be struck by moving parts.

Always disengage drive and shut off the tractor engine before working on the platform.

Be certain shields and guards are in place and in good condition before starting in the field.

Never attempt to clear obstructions off the platform unless the combine is stopped and the tractor engine is shut off.

Escaping hydraulic fluid under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin, causing serious personal injury. Before disconnecting lines, be sure to relieve all pressure. Before applying pressure to the system, be sure all connections are tight and that lines, pipes, and hoses are not damaged. Fluid escaping from a very small hole can be almost invisible. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, rather than hands, to search for suspected leaks.

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

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