

# TWIGA Reach Mower 470



Edition 1.2 - April 2014 PART No. 8999065

# HANDBOOK

### CE Declaration of Conformity, Conforming to EU Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC

We, Spearhead Machinery Ltd, Green View, Salford Priors, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 8SW hereby declare that:

Product	
Product Code	
Serial No	
Туре	

Manufactured by: Alamo Manufacturing Services (UK) Limited, Station Road, Salford Priors, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 8SW

Complies with the required provisions of the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC. The Machinery Directive is supported by the following harmonized standards:

- BS EN ISO 14121-1 (2007) Safety of Machinery Risk Assessment, Part 1: Principles Part 2: Practical Guide and Examples of Methods.
- BS EN ISO 12100-1 (2010) Safety of Machinery Part 1: Basic Terminology and Methodology Part 2: Technical Principles.
- BS EN 349 (1993) + A1 (2008) Safety of Machinery Minimum Distances to avoid the Entrapment of Human Body Parts.
- BS EN 953 (1998) Safety of Machinery Guards General Requirements for the Design and Construction of Fixed and Movable Guards.
- BS EN 982 (1996) + A1 (2008) Safety Requirements for Fluid Power Systems and their Components. Hydraulics.

The EC Declaration only applies if the machine stated above is used in accordance with the operating instructions.

Signed

(On behalf of Spearhead Machinery Ltd)

Status

**General Manager** 

Date

01/04/2014

# **IMPORTANT** VERIFICATION OF WARRANTY REGISTRATION



### **DEALER WARRANTY INFORMATION & REGISTRATION VERIFICATION**

It is imperative that the selling dealer registers this machine with Spearhead Machinery Limited before delivery to the end user – failure to do so may affect the validity of the machine warranty.

To register machines go to the Spearhead Machinery Limited web site at **www.spearheadmachinery.com**, log onto '**Dealer Inside**' and select the '**Machine Registration button**' which can be found in the Service Section of the site. Confirm to the customer that the machine has been registered in the section below.

Should you experience any problems registering a machine in this manner please contact the Spearhead Service Department on 01789 491867.

### **Registration Verification**

Dealer Name:
Dealer Address:
Customer Name:
Date of Warranty Registration:// Dealer Signature:

### **NOTE TO CUSTOMER / OWNER**

Please ensure that the above section has been completed and signed by the selling dealer to verify that your machine has been registered with Spearhead Machinery Limited.

IMPORTANT: During the initial 'bedding in' period of a new machine it is the customer's responsibility to regularly inspect all nuts, bolts and hose connections for tightness and re-tighten if required. New hydraulic connections occasionally weep small amounts of oil as the seals and joints settle in – where this occurs it can be cured by re-tightening the connection – *refer to torque settings chart below.* The tasks stated above should be performed on an hourly basis during the first day of work and at least daily thereafter as part of the machines general maintenance procedure.

### **CAUTION: DO NOT OVER TORQUE HYDRAULIC FITTINGS AND HOSES**

HYDRAULIC HOSE ENDS			PORT ADAPTORS WITH BONDED SEALS		
BSP	Setting	Metric	BSP	Setting	Metric
1/4"	18 Nm	19 mm	1/4"	34 Nm	19 mm
3/8"	31 Nm	22 mm	3/8"	47 Nm	22 mm
1/2"	49 Nm	27 mm	1/2"	102 Nm	27 mm
5/8"	60 Nm	30 mm	5/8"	122 Nm	30 mm
3/4"	80 Nm	32 mm	3/4"	149 Nm	32 mm
1"	125 Nm	41 mm	1"	203 Nm	41 mm
1.1/4"	190 Nm	50 mm	1.1/4"	305 Nm	50 mm
1.1/2"	250 Nm	55 mm	1.1/2"	305 Nm	55 mm
2"	420 Nm	70 mm	2"	400 Nm	70 mm

#### TORQUE SETTINGS FOR HYDRAULIC FITTINGS

# WARRANTY POLICY

#### WARRANTY REGISTRATION

All machines must be registered, by the selling dealer with Spearhead Machinery Ltd, before delivery to the end user. On receipt of the goods it is the buyer's responsibility to check that the Verification of Warranty Registration in the Operator's Manual has been completed by the selling dealer.

#### 1. LIMITED WARRANTIES

- 1.01. All machines supplied by Spearhead Machinery Limited are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship from the date of sale to the original purchaser for a period of 12 months, unless a different period is specified.
- 1.02. All spare parts supplied by Spearhead Machinery Limited are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship from the date of sale to the original purchaser for a period of 6 months.
- 1.03. The manufacturer will replace or repair for the purchaser any part or parts found, upon examination at its factory, to be defective under normal use and service due to defects in material or workmanship. Returned parts must be complete and unexamined.
- 1.04. This warranty does not apply to any part of the goods, which has been subjected to improper or abnormal use, negligence, alteration, modification, fitment of non-genuine parts, accident damage, or damage resulting from contact with overhead power lines, damage caused by foreign objects (e.g. stones, iron, material other than vegetation), failure due to lack of maintenance, use of incorrect oil or lubricants, contamination of the oil, or which has served its normal life. This warranty does not apply to any expendable items such as blades, flails, bushes, belts, flap kits, skids, shields, guards, wear pads or pneumatic tyres.

- 1.05.Temporary repairs and consequential loss i.e. oil, downtime and associated parts are specifically excluded from the warranty.
- 1.06.Warranty on hoses is limited to 12 months and does not include hoses which have suffered external damage. Only complete hoses may be returned under warranty, any which have been cut or repaired will be rejected.
- 1.07.Machines must be repaired immediately a problem arises. Continued use of the machine after a problem has occurred can result in further component failures, for which Spearhead Machinery Ltd cannot be held liable, and may have safety implications.
- 1.08.Except as provided herein, no employee, agent, dealer or other person is authorised to give any warranties of any nature on behalf of Spearhead Machinery Ltd.
- 1.09.For machine warranty periods in excess of 12 months the following additional exclusions shall apply:
  - 1.09.1. Hoses, external seals, exposed pipes and hydraulic tank breathers.
  - 1.09.2. Filters
  - 1.09.3. Rubber mountings
  - 1.09.4. External electric wiring.
  - 1.09.5. Labour and mileage costs.
- 1.10.All service work, particularly filter changes, must be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's service schedule. Failure to comply will invalidate the warranty. In the event of a claim, proof of the service work being carried out may be required.

NB Warranty cover will be invalid if any non-genuine parts have been fitted or used. Use of non-genuine parts may seriously affect the machine's performance and safety. Spearhead Machinery Ltd cannot be held responsible for any failures or safety implications that arise due to the use of non-genuine parts.

#### 2. REMEDIES AND PROCEDURES

- 2.01. The warranty is not effective unless the Selling Dealer registers the machine, via the Spearhead Machinery web site and confirms the registration to the purchaser by completing the confirmation form in the operator's manual.
- 2.02. Any fault must be reported to an authorised Spearhead Machinery dealer as soon as it occurs. Continued use of a machine, after a fault has occurred, can result in further component failure for which Spearhead Machinery Ltd cannot be held liable.
- 2.03.Repairs should be undertaken within two days of the failure. Claims submitted for repairs undertaken more than 2 weeks after a failure has occurred, or 2 days after the parts were supplied will be rejected, unless the delay has been authorised by Spearhead Machinery Ltd.
- 2.04.All claims must be submitted, by an authorised Spearhead Machinery Service Dealer, within 30 days of the date of repair.

- 2.05. Following examination of the claim and parts the manufacturer will pay, at their discretion, for any valid claim the cost of any parts and an appropriate labour allowance if applicable.
- 2.06. The submission of a claim is not a guarantee of payment.
- 2.07. Any decision reached by Spearhead Machinery Ltd is final.

### 3. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- 3.01. The manufacturer disclaims any express (except as set forth herein) and implied warranties with respect to the goods including, but not limited to, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
- 3.02. The manufacturer makes no warranty as to the design, capability, capacity or suitability for use of the goods.
- 3.03.Except as provided herein, the manufacturer shall have no liability or responsibility to the purchaser or any other person or entity with respect to any liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the goods including, but not limited to, any indirect, special, consequential, or incidental damages resulting from the use or operation of the goods or any breach of this warranty. Notwithstanding the above limitations and warranties, the manufacturer's liability hereunder for damages incurred by the purchaser or others shall not exceed the price of the goods.
  - 3.04.No action arising out of any claimed breach of this warranty or transactions under this warranty may be brought more than one (1) year after the cause of the action has occurred.

#### 4. MISCELLANEOUS

- 4.01. The manufacturer may waive compliance with any of the terms of this limited warranty, but no waiver of any terms shall be deemed to be a waiver of any other term.
- 4.02. If any provision of this limited warranty shall violate any applicable law and is held to be unenforceable, then the invalidity of such provision shall not invalidate any other provisions herein.
- 4.03. Applicable law may provide rights and benefits to the purchaser in addition to those provided herein.

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### **General Information**

### Noise

The equivalent daily personal noise exposure from this machine, measured at the operators' ear, is within the range 78 – 85 dB.

These figures apply to a normal distribution of use where the noise fluctuates between zero and maximum. The figures assume that the machine is fitted to a tractor with a quiet cab with the windows closed in a generally open environment. We recommend that the windows are kept closed.

With the cab rear window open the equivalent daily personal noise exposure will increase to a figure within the range 82 - 88 dB.

At equivalent daily noise exposure levels of between 85 and 90 dB, ear protection is recommended, it should be used if any window is left open.

### **General Information**

Read this manual before fitting or operating the machine. Whenever any doubt exists contact your dealer or Spearhead Machinery Limited Service Department for advice and assistance.

Use only Spearhead Machinery Limited 'Genuine Service Parts' on Spearhead Machinery Limited equipment and machines.

**DEFINITIONS:** The following definitions apply throughout this manual:

#### WARNING:

An operating procedure, technique etc which can result in personal injury or loss of life if not observed carefully.

#### CAUTION:

An operating procedure, technique etc which can result in the damage of either machine or equipment if not observed carefully.

#### NOTE:

An operating procedure, technique etc which is considered essential to emphasize.

#### LEFT & RIGHT HAND:

This term is applicable to the machine when fitted to the tractor and viewed from the rear, this also applies to tractor references.

To be assured of the latest design improvements purchase your 'Genuine Replacements' from the Original Equipment Manufacturer: SPEARHEAD MACHINERY LIMITED through your local Dealer or Stockist.

Always quote:

- Machine Type
- Serial Number
- Part Number

### Features

Cable Controls

Linkage Mounted

Right or Left Hand Cutting

1.2m Double Skin Head

150 litre Hydraulic Reservoir

Independent Hydraulics

245° of Head Angle – Constant Motion

**Built in Head Floatation** 

**Optional Lift Float** 

Mechanical Breakback

### Safety Information

This machine has the potential to be extremely dangerous, in the wrong hands it can kill or maim. It is therefore imperative that the owner, and the operator of this machine, read the following section to ensure that they are both fully aware of the dangers that do, or may exist, and their responsibilities surrounding its use.

The operator of this machine is responsible not only for their own safety but equally for the safety of others who may come into the close proximity of the machine, as the owner you are responsible for both.

# POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF THIS MACHINE:

- A Being hit by debris thrown by rotating components.
- A Being hit by machine parts ejected through damage during use.
- Being caught on a rotating power take-off (PTO) shaft.
- A Being caught in other moving parts i.e.: belts, pulleys and cutting heads.
- Electrocution from Overhead Power Lines (by contact with or 'flashover' from).
- A Being hit by cutting heads or machine arms as they move.
- A Becoming trapped between tractor and machine when hitching or unhitching.
- $\blacktriangle$  Tractor overbalancing when machine arm is extended.
- A Injection of high pressure oil from hydraulic hoses or couplings.
- A Machine overbalancing when freestanding (out of use).
- A Road traffic accidents due to collision or debris on the road.

### **BEFORE USING THIS MACHINE YOU MUST:**

- Ensure you read all sections of the operator handbook.
- A Ensure the operator is, or has been, properly trained to use the machine.
- Ensure the operator has been issued with and reads the operator handbook.

Ensure the operator understands and follows the instructions in operator handbook.

Ensure the tractor front, rear and side(s) are fitted with metal mesh or polycarbonate guards of suitable size and strength to protect the operator against thrown debris or parts.

Ensure tractor guards are fitted correctly, are undamaged and kept properly maintained.

Ensure that all machine guards are in position, are undamaged, and are kept maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Ensure flails and their fixings are of a type recommended by the manufacturer, are securely attached and that none are missing or damaged.

Ensure hydraulic pipes are carefully and correctly routed to avoid damage by chaffing, stretching or pinching and that they are held in place with the correct fittings.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for attachment and removal of the machine from the tractor.

Check that the machine fittings and couplings are in good condition.

Ensure the tractor meets the minimum weight recommendations of the machine manufacturer and that ballast is used as necessary.

Always inspect the work area thoroughly before starting to note obstacles and remove wire, bottles, cans and other debris.

▲ Use clear suitably sized warning signs to alert others to the nature of the machine working within that area. Signs should be placed at both ends of the work site. (It is recommended that signs used are of a size and type specified by the Department of Transport and positioned in accordance with their and the Local Highways Authority guidelines).

Ensure the operator is protected from noise. Ear defenders should be worn and tractor cab doors and windows must be kept closed. Machine controls should be routed through proprietary openings in the cab to enable all windows to be shut fully.

Always work at a safe speed taking account of the conditions i.e.: terrain, highway proximity and obstacles around and above the machine.

▲ Extra special attention should be applied to Overhead Power Lines. Some of our machines are capable of reach in excess of 8 metres (26 feet) this means *they* have the potential to well exceed, by possibly 3 metres (9' 9"), the lowest legal minimum

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height of 5.2 metres from the ground for 11,000 and 33,000 volt power lines. It cannot be stressed enough the dangers that surround this capability, it is therefore vital that the operator is fully aware of the maximum height and reach of the machine, and that they

are fully conversant with all aspects regarding the safe minimum distances that apply when working with machines in close proximity to Power Lines. (Further information on this subject can be obtained from the Health & Safety Executive or your Local Power Company).

Always disengage the machine, kill the tractor engine, remove and pocket the key before dismounting for any reason.

Always clear up all debris left at the work area, it may cause hazard to others.

Always ensure when you remove your machine from the tractor that it is left in a safe and stable position using the stands and props provided and secured if necessary.

### WHEN NOT TO USE THIS MACHINE:

A Never attempt to use this machine if you have not been trained to do so.

A Never uses a machine until you have read and understood the operator handbook, are familiar with, and practiced the controls.

A Never use a machine that is poorly maintained.

A Never use a machine if guards are missing or damaged.

A Never use a machine on which the hydraulic system shows signs of wear or damage.

A Never fit, or use, a machine on a tractor that does not meet the manufacturer's minimum specification level.

Never use a machine fitted to a tractor that does not have suitable front, rear and side(s) cab guarding made of metal mesh or polycarbonate.

A Never use the machine if the tractor cab guarding is damaged, deteriorating or badly fitted.

▲ Never turn a machine cutting head to an angle that causes debris to be ejected towards the cab.

Never start or continue to work a machine if people are nearby or approaching - Stop and wait until they are at a safe distance before continuing. A Never attempt to use a machine on materials in excess of its capability.

A Never use a machine to perform a task it has not been designed to do.

A Never operate the tractor or machine controls from any position other than from the driving seat, especially whilst hitching or unhitching the machine.

▲ Never carry out maintenance of a machine or a tractor whilst the engine is running – the engine should be switched off, the key removed and pocketed.

▲ Never leave a machine unattended in a raised position – it should be lowered to the ground in a safe position on a level firm site.

A Never leave a tractor with the key in or the engine running.

A Never carry out maintenance on any part or component of a machine that is raised unless that part or component has been properly substantially braced or supported.

A Never attempt to detect a hydraulic leak with your hand – use a piece of cardboard.

A Never allow children near to, or play on, a tractor or machine under any circumstances.

Although the information given here covers a wide range of safety subjects, it is impossible to predict every eventuality that can occur under differing circumstances whilst operating a machine of this type. No advice given here can replace 'good common sense' and 'total awareness' at all times, but will go a long way towards the safe use of your Spearhead machine.

### Introduction

The Spearhead range of Boom Flail Trimmers has been designed with the farmer and the contractor in mind - which has resulted in a boom flail with a very high specification - with many features not found on other machines.

The construction is of welded steel fabricated assemblies - with many and varied options available covering such things as controls, hydraulics, heads, booms etc. The cutting head is of a 'double skin' construction.

The cutting flail blades offered for your Spearhead machines are: -

- a) Heavy, double edged design (one piece)
  - For 'Upward' or 'Downward' cutting
  - Suitable for hedge cutting
- b) Heavy single edge blade flail (C Flail)
  - Cuts one direction only
  - For grass cutting
- c) Back to Back on shackle (in pairs)
  - For 'Upward' or 'Downward' cutting
  - Suitable for grass/mowing

- d) Boot flail on shackle
  - Cuts one direction only
  - For grass cutting and hedge trimming







### Safety Break-back

A 'swing link breakback' system is built into the machine; this offers a degree of protection to machine components if an obstruction is encountered during normal work.

The break back link will operate if the machine is overloaded i.e. a dense patch of vegetation, too high a forward speed, and when working up hill.

The tractor must be halted and flail head manoeuvred around the obstacle, the machine then reset before continuing.



### <u>Warnings</u>

Never attempt to operate the machine when travelling backwards, the break back will not function and any damage caused will not be considered warranty.

The break back feature does not excuse the machine operator of their need to be aware of obstacles and to avoid hazards. It is your responsibility to maintain a long reliable working life.

Two parking stand legs are fitted to the machine, which once the machine has been attached to the tractor should be folded away in the 'stow' position.

The machine has 'angle head flotation' as standard –this is engaged by moving the head rotation lever beyond the normal actuation range into a detented 'float' position. 'Lift float' is available as an option on the machine.

All machines have a relief valve in the primary ram system, this limits the pressure which can be generated in the drop side of the cylinder – the cutting head cannot therefore be 'driven' into the ground in any circumstances.

### **Tractor Selection**

### **Tractor Specifications**

Tractor size must be a minimum of 45kW (60 HP) - 3000kg

Tractors must be equipped with a power take off (PTO) shaft that must run at 450 rpm during operation. The PTO shaft should run clockwise when viewed from the rear of the tractor and ideally be of a 1% S.A.E. – 6 spline shaft type to enable a standard PTO shaft to be connected.

The tractor should have counterbalance weights (on approved mountings) fitted if necessary and/or ballasted wheels to ensure stability of the unit at all times.

Stability may be further increased with a wider track setting on the tractors rear wheels – contact your local dealer or tractor agent for specific advice on this subject.

Four wheel drive tractors have extra weight inbuilt plus larger front wheels, this is an advantage in keeping the unit stable.

### Tractor/Operator Guarding



Use a tractor with 'safety glass' windows if possible and fit **Operator Guard** (*Part No. OPT0603*) using the hooks provided.

Shape 'safety protection material' to cover all vulnerable areas. Remember the driver <u>must</u> be looking through 'safety protection' at the flail head in <u>any</u> working position. If the windows are not laminated safety glass polycarbonate glazing must also be fitted.

If the tractor has a roll bar only, a frame must be made to carry both mesh and polycarbonate glazing.

Ensure the operator is guarded by 'safety protection' whatever position the machine is in and that the protection is such that it does not interfere with tractor and machine functions or obstruct the operator's vision.

### Hydraulic Oil

### IMPORTANT

The hydraulic system will have been 'run-up' and checked at the factory prior to the machines despatch, where hydraulic oil is used - and is recommended for the machine. The hydraulic tank will have oil in it when delivered.

Oil tank capacity for the TWIGA 470 is 150 Litres

The user must ensure the hydraulic tank is full of 'RANDO 46' hydraulic oil (or an equivalent recommended oil – refer to oil chart below) before attempting to start the machine from new.

	Manufacturer	Cold or Temperate Climate	Hot Climate
	BP	Bartran 46	Bartran 68
		Energol HLP-HM 46	Energol HLP-HM 68
	CASTROL	Hyspin AWH-M 46	Hyspin AWH-M 68
	COMMA	Hydraulic Oil LIC 15	Hydraulic Oil LIC 20
	ELF	Hydrelf HV 46	Hydrelf HV 68
		Hydrelf XV 46	
	ESSO	Univis N 46	Univis N 68
		Renolin 46	Renolin 68
	FUCHS	Renolin HVZ 46	Renolin HVZ 68
	(UK/Non UK markets*)	Renolin CL46/B15*	Renolin CL68/B20*
		Renolin AF46/ZAF46B*	Renolin AF68/ZAF68B*
	GREENWAY	Excelpower HY 68	Excelpower HY 68
	MILLERS	Millmax 46	Millmax 68
		Millmax HV 46	Millmax HV 68
	MORRIS	Liquimatic 5	Liquimatic 6
		Liquimatic HV 46	Liquimatic HV 68
		Triad 46	Triad 68
	SHELL	Tellus 46	Tellus 68
		Tellus T46	Tellus T68
	TEXACO	RandoHD 46	Rando HD 68
		Rando HDZ 46	Rando HDZ 68
	TOTAL	Equivis ZS 46	Equivis ZS 68

### **Recommended Oils**

The tank top filter/breather is equipped with a strainer to ensure all oil is strained when being put into tank. The strainer basket - should never be removed, all hydraulic oil filling is to be done through the strainer.

#### WARNING

Never mix hydraulic oils - if another supplier's oil is to be used ensure it is suitably compatible oil - *Check with your oil supplier or machine manufacturer first.* 

### Attaching the Machine – Chain Type Stabilizer

### **IMPORTANT: -**

Attachment of the machine to the tractor should always be performed on a firm level site.

- Remove locking pins and lift pins supplied with Hedge trimmer from lower link positions of linkage frame.
- Slowly and very carefully reverse the tractor towards the machine linkage frame.
- With care ensure that tractor lower link ball eyes fit between lower jaws of linkage frame and that pin holes are aligned.

### SWITCH OFF TRACTOR ENGINE & ENSURE HANDBRAKE IS ON

- With holes of tractor lower link eyes in line with lower jaw holes of frame the lower linkage pins should now be refitted *fit spacers if required to prevent side movement of link arms.*
- Secure lift pins in position using locking pins.
- Attach top link along with the upper stabilizer plates to the tractor selecting the highest possible position avoiding any load sensing properties.
- Connect top link to the machines top link point.
- Raise the machine on the tractor's linkage to a position where the stub shaft of the tractors PTO drive and the stub shaft of the machine gearbox are horizontally aligned. *Note: As lift occurs be aware that the machine may tilt slightly.*
- Tractor lower linkage check chains or bars should now be tightened to ensure tractor arms are locked and machine is positioned centrally to the tractor.
- Adjust top link to bring the machine into the vertical position.
- Thread stabilizer chain through the holes in both upper stabilizer plates leaving an equal length of chain on each side.
- Raise machine slightly and thread each end of the chain through the holes of the stabilizer lower plates on both sides pull as tight as possible and lock in position in the chain slot of the hole. Lower machine enough only to exert tension on the chain.
- Fit PTO shaft and attach guard chains to a suitable fixed location refer to link type stabilizer section for details of the PTO measuring, cutting and fitting procedure.
- Raise and secure the stand legs into the stowed position.
- Fit operator safety guarding to tractor windows.



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### Attaching the Machine – Link Type Stabilizer

### **IMPORTANT: -**

Attachment of the machine to the tractor should always be performed on a firm level site.

- Remove locking pins and lift pins supplied with Hedge trimmer from lower link positions of linkage frame.
- Slowly and very carefully reverse the tractor towards the machine linkage frame.
- With care ensure that tractor lower link ball eyes fit between lower jaws of linkage frame and that pin holes are aligned.

### SWITCH OFF TRACTOR ENGINE & ENSURE HANDBRAKE IS ON

- With holes of tractor lower link eyes in line with lower jaw holes of frame the lower linkage pins should now be refitted *fit spacers if required to prevent side movement of link arms.*
- Secure lift pins in position using locking pins.
- Fit and secure the stabiliser's top link yoke to the tractor's top link select the highest available position avoiding any load sensing properties.
- Attach top link to machines top link point.
- Raise the machine on the tractor's linkage to a position where the stub shaft of the tractors PTO drive and the stub shaft of the machine gearbox are horizontally aligned. *Note: As lift occurs be aware that the machine may tilt slightly.*
- Tractor lower linkage check chains should now be tightened to ensure tractor arms are locked and machine is positioned centrally to the tractor.
- Adjust top link to bring the machine into the vertical position.
- Check the PTO shaft length.

When connected from tractor to machine it should engage by 1/3rd of the total shaft length, i.e. male part should be halfway from the end to fully 'bottomed' out. Do not use the machine until this has been cut to the correct length.



Measure the PTO shaft and cut to the dimension shown – the finished length of the PTO shaft should be 75mm (3") less than the measured distance 'A' between tractor shaft and gearbox stub shaft – to enable fitting. NOTE:

For subsequent use with different tractors measure again, there must be a minimum shaft overlap of 150mm (6").

- Fit the PTO shaft.
- Ensure the shaft is correctly fitted to the splines at both ends.
- Fit the anti-spin chains of the PTO guard to a suitable rigid non-turning location.
- Raise stand legs into their stowage position and secure with locking pins.
- Fit mesh safety screens they are designed to be fitted to the cutting head side of tractor cab (i.e. for left-hand cut machines to left-hand side of cab). Secure in position using the fixings provided ensuring that all exposed glass areas on the cutting side of the tractor are fully protected. All glass screens on the relevant side of cab must be protected.
- Fix valve control handles into position:-
- Control levers are supplied bolted together as a complete unit along with a mounting bracket for attachment within the tractor *the number of controllers in the set can vary dependent on the particular model or specification machine.* The mounting bracket should be positioned on the inner wing face of the tractor cab in a suitable position for ease of operation.

It is suggested that for three and four bank controller sets the bracket is fitted to the left-hand wing for left-hand cut machines and right-hand wing for right- hand cut machines. In the case of electric machines with a single-bank rotor controller is required it is suggested that the bracket is fitted to the opposite side for the control of the cutting direction and that the joystick mounting bracket is fitted to the cutting side - both brackets are however the same.

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### Flail Trimmer – Operation Information

The vehicle driver should be conversant with all tractor controls and capabilities.

It is always advisable for the tractor driver to practice the controls and operations of the Flail Trimmer, in a safe open location away from potential hazards, prior to setting off into work.

The speed of operation of Trimming will depend on the size, quantity, and type of growth to be cut. A slow speed to suit conditions should be selected, ensuring that engine speed gives a P.T.O speed of 540 Max. R.P.M for general use - *this 540 Max. R.P.M (PTO) is recommended for best trimming results and performance, variation from this recommended R.P.M should be kept to a minimum and never at any time should PTO R.P.M exceed 540 R.P.M.* 

### **Rotor Rotation Direction**

Depending on the type of hedge to be cut, an option of rotation direction is offered. The 'upward' cut is recommended for trimming grass, light growth such as one/two year's growth.

**DOWNWARD CUTTING IS NOT RECOMMENDED** - and should only be considered for really heavy, large diameter, growth cutting - even then, it is <u>important</u> that down cutting is kept to the minimum, very short periods, only.



### **DANGER - IMPORTANT**

In heavy conditions when cutting large diameter growth with front cowling removed, the rotor <u>MUST ALWAYS CUT DOWNWARDS AT FRONT</u>. At no time should the rotor be cutting upwards with the front cowling removed.

### DANGER VERY IMPORTANT

It is very important that motor spool and motor spool control lever works in one direction only - From centre (OFF) position to selected (ON) 'rotor cut' direction position – permitting the rotor one direction of cut and the 'OFF' setting only. This eliminates the chance of going from 'cut-up' to 'cut-down' in one movement of controls and blowing the system. Only by altering LOCK-LEVER setting can direction of control lever be changed.

#### WARNING

### <u>DANGER</u> - NEVER CHANGE DIRECTION OF ROTOR CUT WHILST ROTOR IS STILL TURNING

### <u>DANGER</u> - ALWAYS ALLOW ROTOR TO STOP SPINNING COMPLETELY BEFORE CHANGING CUT ROTATION DIRECTION

### **Rotor Control Operation**

The rotor control lever operates the rotor 'on' and 'off' function for both uphill and downhill cutting - the specific cutting direction is dictated by the position of the locking latch on the front of the cable control head unit, with the latch in the vertical position the lever can be moved from its centre 'off' position to the forwards 'on' position for uphill cutting direction. With the latch in the horizontal position the lever can be moved from its centre 'off' position for downhill cutting direction. The rotor is off when the control lever is in the central position – *see illustration below.* 

WARNING: When switching off a rotor it will continue to 'freewheel' before stopping - in some cases this can be up to 40 seconds or more. Never approach a machine whilst the rotor is running.



**ROTOR CUT DIRECTION MUST NEVER BE CHANGED IN ONE MOVEMENT** 

### **Cable Controls**



### Cable Controls – Lever Functions



### Hydraulic Controls – Cutting Position

The cutting head must at all times be lowered gently into the cutting position. Never 'drop' a flail head into a hedge at speed. When cutting at ground level (grass etc.) the head must be lowered gently to give a slight contact pressure of roller to ground.

### WARNING:

Ensure flail head does not come into contact with obstacles such as rocks, stones, stumps etc. Keep rotor away and free from wire, as to entangle wire in a rotor is both dangerous and costly. Should large obstacles be encountered or wire become entangled in the rotor **stop immediately** and reset or clear before continuing.

#### DANGER WARNING Always stop machine, switch off engine and pocket the key before attempting to remove any items that foul the flail head.

Normal obstacles and level variations should be overcome by the operator slowing 'forward motion' and raising/lowering the booms of trimmers to suit.

### **Cutting Head**

The cutting head rotor has been balanced prior to fitting; this will ensure a vibration free cutting unit.

Should the rotor become blocked for any reason, hit an obstacle, loose a blade or blades, the rotor may be put into a state of unbalance. This will result in vibration from the rotor being transmitted through the head. Should this happen **stop immediately**, as to continue may have serious consequences.

Once stopped clean rotor and check for loss of blades and bolts, replace as required. As a result of hitting solid objects with serious force the rotor can be bent, this will obviously cause vibrations. In such cases the only answer will be to get the rotor repaired/rebalanced or replaced.

Keep the cutting blades VERY SHARP: the flail head should be inspected daily. Bolts and nuts holding flails to rotor should be checked frequently and kept **tight.** Missing or broken flails should be replaced immediately, as the imbalance will rapidly harm bearings and structure. When a flail is renewed its opposing flail (or pair if using Back to Back flails) should be renewed also in order to maintain balance.

Check 'vee' belt tension on cutter head daily: a load of 5Kgs (10 lbs.) should give a deflection of 9mm at these pulley centres. Access to the belts is by removing the guard panel on the side of the drive end. Tension is adjusted by first slackening the bolts mounting the motor (nuts are held from turning on the inside). The nuts on the threaded adjuster can now be turned to give the required tension and then re-tightened and the motor mounting bolts then tightened also.

### Transportation

For transport the machine should be 'folded' into a position that is as compact as possible within the confines of the tractor width. The cutting head should be placed into the vertical position with the flails outwards ensuring sufficient clearance of the tractor wheel to avoid possible contact or fouling during transportation.

WARNING Never transport a machine with the Booms open -Ensure Booms are in contact with each other at all times.

### **Removing The Machine From The Tractor**

Select a good clear, level and firm site on which to detach and store the machine.

#### IMPORTANT

Use the hydraulics to lower the head onto the ground horizontally (as if you were cutting grass).

- Disengage the PTO drive.
- STOP THE TRACTOR ENGINE.
- Lower stand legs from their stowed position and place into the 'down' position fit pins and secure with the lynch pins provided.
- LINK TYPE STABILIZER: Remove lynch pins from the stabiliser locating pins, and remove pins. It may be necessary to slightly raise three-point linkage to 'free' pins, for removal.
- CHAIN TYPE STABILIZER: Raise machine until chain becomes slack, remove chain from locking slots in lower stabilizer plates.
- Lower hedge trimmer so stand legs are on the floor, by means of lowering tractor three-point linkage. (*Top link may have to be adjusted to ensure trimmer is upright and safe*).
- When you are sure that trimmer is properly settled and safe on its stands, operate boom '1' lever to release hydraulic pressure from ram.
- Disconnect controls from tractor cab and stow neatly on the machine clear of the ground protected from the elements.
- Disconnect Power Take off shaft and anti-spin chains (tractor end).
- Remove lynch pins from lower lift pins and remove pins from linkage tractor linkage arms are now free of the machine.
- Draw tractor slowly away Many operators stop about 300mm (12") away to doublecheck that tractor and machine have completely separated and that no connections or couplings remain connected.

Safety screens can now be removed if so desired.

- Replace location pins back through arms of stabiliser assembly and secure in position with lynch pins.
- Re-connect top link bar assembly back onto stabiliser with pin and lynch pin provided.
- Replace lower linkage pins back into relevant positions on mounting frame and secure with lynch pins.
- Ensure tractor top link pin is replaced and secured with lynch pin.

### Maintenance

#### OIL FILTER CHANGE

Oil filter should be replaced initially after the first 50 hours and every 250 hours thereafter.

#### **HYDRAULIC PUMP - GEARBOX**

**Gearbox oil level should be checked every 500 hours** and topped up if required. Oil capacity for both Standard and Hi-Power Gearboxes is **0.5 Litres.** 

**Standard Hydraulic Gearbox** use **S.A.E EP 90** oil - always ensure the same grade of oil is used for 'topping up' when required.

**Hi-power Hydraulic Gearbox** (Hi-ton) use **universal oil** - always ensure the same grade of oil is used for 'topping up' when required.

#### **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE & LAYING UP**

#### **Daily Maintenance**

- Check oil level in main system oil tank.
- Grease pivot points regularly.
- Check cutting blade sharpness always keep the cutting blades very sharp.
- Check all machine and safety guarding is in place and in good condition replace or repair if required. Never operate a machine with missing or damaged guarding.
- Check hoses and connections for wear damage or leaks and replace immediately if required. Never check for hydraulic leaks with your hand – use a piece of card.

#### Weekly Maintenance

- Check all hydraulic fittings and hoses.
- Check 'vee' belts tension on cutter head drive.

#### Laying Up Maintenance

- Clean the machine and note any damage or repairs needed arrange for spares and/or repairs as required in preparation for next season.
- Fully lubricate the machine totally.
- Store machine in a safe dry location ideally in an 'undercover' location.
- Check 'vee' belts tension on cutter head drive.

## A full inspection to all components of your machine should be made prior to starting a new season's work after a period of 'laying up'.

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