

Job Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

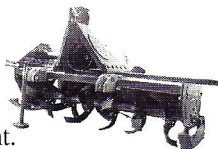
## Topic 218: Rotary Tiller (Tractor Mounted)

**Introduction:** Always read and understand the instructions given in the manufacturer's manual. Do not allow anyone to operate the tractor and tiller that has not been properly trained in the operating procedures. Disconnect and lockout power source for maintenance.

- Make sure you are familiar with all controls and functions of the tiller and tractor. Ask for advice when unsure.
- Always engage the tiller from the driver's seat only.
- Do not leave tractor unattended with the engine running.
- Remember, dismounting from a moving tractor can cause serious injury. Do not let anyone ride on the tractor.
- Read the safety labels and messages that the manufacturer has attached. These indicate there is a potential hazard to personal safety. Extra safety precautions must be taken in these areas. Keep all safety labels clean and legible. Replace when worn or damaged.
- Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguisher handy. Keep emergency phone numbers inside the kit. Restock as necessary.
- Never travel at a speed which does not allow adequate control of steering and stopping. Wear your seat belt.
- Some rough terrains require a slower speed. Sudden braking can cause a towed load to swerve and upset. Turning the tractor too tight may cause the tiller to ride up on the wheels. In order to maintain steering control, ballast may have to be added to your tractor.

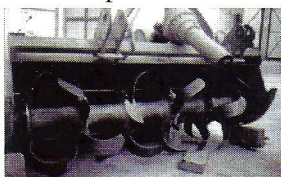
**Before tilling:** Handle gasoline safely and store it in a proper container. Relieve pressure before disconnecting hydraulic lines.

- Check oil level in gearbox and chain case.
- Make sure all plugs have been replaced properly in the gearbox and chain case.
- Check the drive chain tension.
- Make sure all tiller tines, bolts, and nuts are tight.
- Ensure all guards and shields are in place and secure.
- Grease driveline shaft and all other grease fittings.
- Clear the area to be tilled of rocks, branches, and other foreign objects.
- Tall grass and weeds may need to be mowed before tilling.



**Tilling:** Do not engage PTO with machine in the fully raised or lowered position.

- Begin tilling at a slow forward speed and shift up as ground conditions warrant. Keep front deflector in place.
- Tiller should be operated with the tiller deck level to the ground.
- Tiller tines will cut better at a faster rotor speed than at reduced throttle.
- Tilling should not be done in wet conditions as soil will stick to tines.
- Do not engage PTO at full throttle.
- After tilling the first 50 to 100 feet, stop and check to see that the tiller is adjusted properly.
- Do not make turns, or attempt to back up, while the tiller is in the ground.
- Periodically check for foreign objects wrapped around the rotor shaft and remove them after disengaging PTO, turning off tractor, and removing ignition key.



- If you are tilling too shallow or too deep, adjust the skid shoes accordingly. If the soil texture is too coarse, lower the leveling door and reduce your ground speed. If the soil texture is too fine, you will need to raise your leveling door and increase your ground speed.
- When you are done tilling for the day, make sure you use proper tractor shut down procedures before you get off of the tractor. Stop engine, set brake, and wait for all moving parts to stop. If you are detaching your tiller, make sure you park it on a level surface.

**Transport:** When raising the tiller to the transport position, the driveline must not contact tractor or tiller. Reduce tractor ground speed when turning; and, leave enough clearance so the tiller does not make any contact with obstacles such as buildings, trees, or fences.

- Select a safe ground travel speed when transporting from one area to another. When traveling on roadways, transport in such a way that faster moving vehicles may pass you safely. When traveling over rough or hilly terrain, shift tractor to a lower gear.

**Personal protective equipment (PPE):** Wear safety glasses or goggles, ear plugs or muffs, sturdy boots with good traction, and gloves when working around the tiller. Wear snug fitting clothing to avoid entanglement with moving parts.

**Conclusion:** When traveling on public roads, use your lights and signals to give adequate warning to operators of other vehicles.

## Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Safety Violations: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employee Signatures:**

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

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These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.