

SOD CUTTER SAFETY & OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Safety Warnings

1. **WARNING:** Failure to read and follow safety instructions may lead to injury!
2. **NEVER** refuel while unit is running and/or hot.
3. **ALWAYS** wear eye protection while operating this tool.

Before Operating the Unit

1. **WARNING:** A dull cutter blade can be responsible for premature wear and failures.
2. **ADJUST** the pitch angle of the blade for the soil conditions. Hard soil or a dull blade requires a more forward pitch.
3. **SET** the blade depth gauge to the desired depth. To promote faster root development, leave 3/4 inch or less of soil attached to the cut turf.
4. **MOVE** blade depth control lever into position on depth adjustment stop and lock in place.
5. **WARNING:** Look for and flag all sprinkler heads or objects that could damage the machine.

When Operating the Unit

1. **BEFORE** starting engine, disengage the clutch lever; if control is engaged the engine will not start. The operator presence lever must be held when the clutch is engaged.
2. **TRANSPORT** unit only with the wheel shifter engaged.
3. **ENGAGE** both the blade and wheel shifter in preparation to cut sod. **WARNING:** Engage the shifters **ONLY** in the direction indicated by the decal or damage can occur. **NEVER** engage the blade or wheel shifter when the clutch control lever is engaged and the engine is running.
4. **BEGIN** cutting the sod by lifting slightly on the handlebars allowing the blade to clear the sod. Slowly engage the clutch control lever. The sod cutter will begin to move forward as the blade starts moving fore and aft.
5. **NEXT**, lower the handlebars allowing the blade to enter the sod and the rear wheel to come in contact with the turf. At the end of a cut, slowly lift the handlebars allowing the blade to lift out of the sod. When the blade is clear of the sod, turn the machine keeping the blade clear of the sod or disengage the clutch control lever and the machine will stop.
6. **CUT** sod up and down slopes. Cutting sideways or at an angle on a slope results in extreme operator fatigue. In addition, the sod cutter can become unstable when cutting sideways on a slope and tip over.