



Elec-Trak[®]

Tractor

PRODUCT SERVICE BULLETIN NO. 72-23 (23)

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Rejuvenating Flooded or Submerged Elec-Trak Tractors

Due to the recent flooding and high water conditions prevalent in eastern states and parts of central U.S.A., many Elec-Trak tractors have been submerged in water. "Hot Line" calls indicate the need for information regarding the service required to restore these tractors to operation. Areas that may require service are power pack, drive motor, mower motors, charger, speed control, gages, and trans-axle.

After a flood, tractors like everything else are a sorry sight -- mud smeared over everything, debris, and sand everywhere. The first step is a thorough cleaning of the equipment; this should be started at once, and arrangements should be made to provide heat in the building while a general plan of drying is laid out.

After removal of the batteries, clean water under moderate pressure can be used to wash out sand and silt. Most important - No operation or charging should be attempted before thorough drying out of all components.

Power Pack

Normally, the small vent holes in the battery caps will not allow flood water to enter cells since air pockets are present and block the openings. However, very small amounts of water may enter the cells before the air pressure seals the hole. Excess electrolyte (above the normal level) should be taken out of each cell and the power pack should then be fully charged. If the battery admitted a lot of water, then after charging, the electrolyte should be removed, cells flushed with clear water, and fresh electrolyte of 1.250 to 1.260 spg should be added immediately. Since special equipment and extreme care are required for this operation, a battery service shop is recommended to perform this service.

If little evidence of seepage into the cells is present, all battery surfaces should be cleaned before reinstallation and should then be put through a full charge cycle.

Drive Motor

Since it is not recommended that Elec-Trak tractor dealers attempt repairs of drive motors, all drive motors that were under water for any length of time should be removed and taken to a reputable motor repair shop for drying, cleaning and lubrication. If attempts are made to operate the motor before this service, permanent failures may occur. If service shop repair cannot be obtained and the tractor must be returned to service, carefully disassemble the motor, being sure to matchmark mating parts, and dry out by baking 2 hours at 200° F and then 4 hours at 230° F. Reassemble carefully and install on tractor.

Mower Motors

The mower motors are sealed on their lower ends so any water entering the unsealed top end is trapped while the motor is in an upright position. The motors should be removed and handled as described for the drive motor.

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GENERAL ELECTRIC



