42" ROTARY MOWER
Model No. AA42

MOWER OPERATION

To operate the mower, the operator must be seated and the key switch turned to "On," before the PTO switch is turned to "On." An electrical interlock prevents mower starting if this procedure is not followed. Once the mower is running, the operator leaving the seat or turning the key switch to "Off" causes another interlock which not only interrupts mower power, but also stops blade rotation immediately by a dynamic braking action. For all normal use, the PTO switch should be used to turn mower on and off. To restart, the PTO switch must be turned "Off", then "On."

Ground Speed

Average to heavy mowing should be done in the D₁ range. Light mowing may be done in the D₂ range if the tractor speed is not too fast. If the cut is not even and clean, a lower speed or range selector position should be used.

If the mower motor becomes overloaded due to high grass, obstructions, clogging, or jamming, that motor may shut off momentarily. This occurs due to the opening of a circuit breaker which prevents motor damage. After a short interval for cooling, the circuit breaker will reset automatically and the motor will restart. If the breaker continues to interrupt motor power, after loading has been reduced, remove the power cord from the PTO receptacle and check the blades for clogged grass.

CAUTION: Always disconnect power cord from PTO receptacle before handling the mower for any reason.

MOWER ATTACHMENT

To attach the mower, refer to Figure 1 and take the following steps:

1. Center the mower in front of the tractor with the mounting arms rearward in the approximate mounting position.

The basic 42" Rear Discharge Rotary Mower is also available with a side discharge option, depending on the Discharge Kit purchased.

The Rear Discharge Kit is recommended for the homeowner who mows his lawn frequently or intends to use a lawn sweeper. Also a greater degree of safety is afforded the operator and bystanders with this kit since any objects that are picked up by the blades are discharged under and behind the tractor.

The Side Discharge Kit is designed for those homeowners who must mow their lawns less frequently without picking up the grass clippings. The side discharge arrangement disperses the clippings over a wider area. (Side discharge mowers should not be used near bystanders or buildings where a thrown object could cause injury.)

In either configuration, the mower is mounted directly to the Elec-Trak without the need of additional equipment.
2. Secure the mounting arms to the tractor frame with the clevis pins and hair-pin coppers supplied with the tractor (see insert Figure 1).

3. Thread lift tape under the lower guide and over the front guide as shown in the insert Fig. 1. Attach to mower lift clevis.

4. Secure mower "helper" springs to either side of the front lift pulley axle with the large washers and hair-pin coppers supplied with tractor. (To ease spring attachment, raise mower with lift to its "Up" position.)

5. Lower mower to ground and allow slack in lift tape. (Extra slack in the lift tape should be used on hilly terrain so the mower can follow the uneven terrain.)

6. Stand clear of mower and insert power cord plug into the tractor PTO receptacle.

Removal of the mower follows the same steps in the reverse order.

ADJUSTMENTS

The cutting height of the mower may be adjusted from 1 1/2 inches to 4 inches in 1/2 inch increments. Height adjustment is made as follows:

1. Remove power cord from PTO receptacle.

2. Raise mower by the lift to its "Up" position.

3. Hold one of the front casters and remove its retaining pin.

4. Slide caster downward free of support.

5. Reassemble caster with desired number of 1/2 inch spacers below support and remaining spacers above support. Secure with pin and adjust other caster similarly.

6. Adjust each rear mower wheel by loosening its thumb screw and moving the assembly to the position determined by the front caster spacing; i.e., if no spacers are used below the front caster supports, the rear wheel assembly should be secured using the lowest guide pin hole. Using one spacer below the support requires use of the second guide pin hole, and so forth.

SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

Before handling the mower, remove the power cord plug from the PTO receptacle. Mower deck cleaning and blade sharpening can then be performed safely after lowering the lift to increase tape slack and picking up the front edge of the mower by the handle. When positioned properly, the mower will stand freely in a nearly vertical position.

Cleaning

It is recommended that the mower deck be cleaned after each use to maintain maximum mowing effectiveness and reduce the likelihood of blade clogging. Immediately after each use, expose the underside of the mower as outlined above. In this position, cleaning is easily done by directing a stream of water from a garden hose onto all underside mower surfaces.

Blade Sharpening

Expose the blades as previously outlined. With the blades mounted, "touching up" may be done with a hand file. If light regrinding is required, the GE TM3 with a drill head and blade sharpening attachment (available from your dealer) restores the cutting edges without blade removal. Using these accessories assures the original angle of grind, but care must be taken to grind equal amounts from the cutting edges of any blade to prevent unbalance.