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LAWN SCARIFIERS (PETROL)

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS

It is in the interests of those operating this equipment, and for the safety of others, that these **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS** are carefully read and understood before operating this equipment.

PURPOSE

1. This type of equipment is designed for scarifying and de-thatching large areas of level flat lawns.

PERSONAL SAFETY

2. This equipment is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it. It must not be operated by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. If the equipment is not used in a safe, careful and controlled way, personal injury or injury to others may result.
4. This equipment may be transported by an estate car or van.
5. This equipment employs the use of petrol, which can cause fire and explosion if not handled in a safe manner. Keep flammable materials away from the engine and exhaust.
6. The exhaust on this equipment may become hot; take care when touching the equipment.
7. Before attempting to operate this equipment you must familiarise yourself with the equipment, its controls and operating characteristics.
8. Never tamper with, or attempt to modify, any safety devices on this equipment.
9. Keep both hands and feet clear of the moving parts (especially the tines) when using this equipment. Always switch off the machine and allow rotating parts to stop before cleaning, moving and inspecting the equipment.
10. Before starting your work, think and plan ahead to ensure you, and others around you, will be working in a safe environment.
11. When using this equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
 - Dust mask to a minimum protection of EN149ffp2(s).
 - Ear defenders providing protection up to 96dB(A).
 - Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.
 - Appropriate industrial gloves.

Note: Other types of work, or environment, may require a higher level of PPE.

OPERATING AREA SAFETY

12. Before commencing work ensure that the area you are to operate the equipment in is a safe environment. Erect safety barriers and warning signs as necessary.
13. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and hazards (projections, cables, pipes, etc.).
14. Before commencing work warn others who may be working in the vicinity of the equipment to keep clear. If possible place safety barriers around your work area.
15. To reduce the risk of inhaling toxic fumes, never run this equipment inside enclosed spaces.

16. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.
17. If you plan to burn the waste produced from this equipment ensure it is safe to do so.
18. Protect others from noise.
19. Do not use this equipment where there is a danger of igniting fumes from petrol or gas cylinders.

BEFORE OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

SAFETY CHECKS

20. Visually inspect the equipment and all its accessories (engine, tines, grass box, controls, guards, etc.) for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage, undue wear, etc.). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
21. Before attempting to operate the equipment, familiarise yourself with the equipments controls. Make sure you understand their purpose and function.
22. Lawns with long grass should first be cut short.
23. Ensure your area of work is free from stones, sticks and any other obstructions.
24. Before you start the equipment you must know how to **STOP** it in an emergency. Releasing the 'dead mans handle' will cause the engine to stop.

OPERATING THE EQUIPMENT

USING THE EQUIPMENT

25. Ensure that there is no waste material under the equipment and that the grass box is empty before attempting to start the machine. Ensure the grass box is fitted correctly and securely.
26. Before starting the equipment set the tines to match the soil level. To achieve this first push forward the control lever (lowered position) and turn the fine adjuster until the tines just touch the soil surface. Now move the loose pointer (in the center of the adjuster) to the arrow on the equipments chassis and return the control lever to the raised position.
27. To set the tines to the required depth turn the fine adjuster anti-clockwise (one full turn lowers the tines by 1.5mm).
28. Always start with the tines set for light penetration and gradually lower the tines after several passes. Do not allow the machine to labour, raise the cutting height of the tines.
29. When working, always hold the equipments handle firmly with both hands.
30. Do not use this equipment on steep slopes.
31. Always ensure the equipment is running at its optimum running speed before attempting to lower the tines.
32. Always stop the engine and allow the tines to stop rotating before removing the grass box.
33. Do not tilt the equipment to clear obstacles (i.e. concrete, paving stones, etc.).
34. Should you need to clear a waste blockage in the equipment, stop the engine, allow the tines to come to a complete stop and disconnect the spark plug lead.
35. Before attempting to remove grass or debris that has tangled in the tines, stop the engine, allow the tines to come to a complete stop and disconnect the spark plug lead.
36. Stop working and switch-off the machine if someone approaches you.

STARTING THE EQUIPMENT

Note: Below is a brief description of STARTING procedure for the majority of scarifiers. If the hire company has provided dedicated instructions for your type of machine - follow them.

37. Check the fuel and oil levels and top-up as necessary.
38. Move the throttle lever to the fully open position and close the choke.
39. Hold the 'dead mans handle' against the main handlebar.
40. Hold the equipment firmly with one hand. With the other hand, take-up the slack of the starter handle cord until you feel the starter has engaged with the engine. Now pull firmly on the starting handle. Once the engine has started allow the starter cord to retract.
41. Allow the engine to warm-up before opening the choke and setting the throttle to the optimum speed.

REFUELING

42. Refuel with petrol only.
43. The engine must not be running whilst refueling. Warm engines must be allowed to cool down first.
44. Do not smoke whilst refueling.
45. Clean the area around the fuel filler cap then remove it.
46. Using a clean funnel pour petrol into the fuel tank. Care must be taken not to overfill or spill. Fuel spilt on the engine must be wiped dry, that spilt on the ground must be removed and the area covered with sand or earth. Fuel soaked clothes must be removed.
47. Replace the fuel filler cap securely.

SECURITY & MAINTENANCE

48. Visually check the condition of the equipment at the start of each day.
49. If the equipment operates erratically, or incorrectly, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
50. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from grass and other debris.
51. When the equipment is left unattended for long periods (i.e. overnight), ensure it is made secure to prevent unauthorized use or loss.

COLLECTION & PICK-UP

52. For safety reasons this equipment requires you to use a **VAN** or an **ESTATE**.

