



SERVICE REMINDER: PREPARE FOR MANURE SPREADING SEASONS

Spring manure spreading season will soon be here. Be sure to remind your customers to inspect and prepare their machines for optimal performance and to avoid breakdowns. The Operator's Manual has detailed and important information to help customers identify common areas that should be inspected and/or adjusted.

Side-Discharge Spreaders and Box Spreaders:

Drawbar adjustment: This is important for correct flexing of the PTO shaft and can lead to shaft failures if not the correct PTO length. This can be easily overlooked if hooking the spreader up to a different tractor. There are different settings which are dependent on multiple criteria such as machine size, PTO speed and PTO size. Correct measurements are specified in all Operator's Manuals.

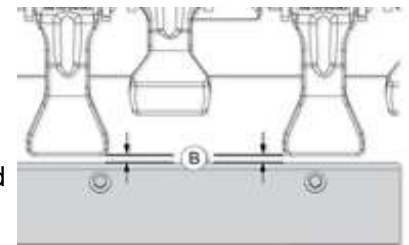
Properly grease and oil all applicable areas: Remind your customers to grease all inputs, augers, discharge, wheel bearings, PTOs (including the plastic bearings on shields), axles and hitches if required. Pay special attention to PTOs with CV joints, to ensure grease is making it to the swivel ball area. The swivel ball receives grease through one of the zerks on the cross and that zerk will take more grease than the others, around 15 pumps. PTOs should be greased every eight hours of operation.

Wheels and tires: It is especially important to have the proper air pressure in all tires. Air pressure specifications are found in the Operator's Manual. Do not use the PSI listed on the tire itself. In addition, customers should recheck torque on each wheel nut. Torque on each wheel nut should be checked monthly.

Chains and sprockets: Be sure to go through all chains and to look for wear or stiffness in the links, check chain idlers for correct tension adjustments and ensure all springs are in good working condition. This is also a good time to check all set screws in the sprockets and bearing hubs to be sure they are securely tightened.

Specific to Side-Discharge Spreaders:

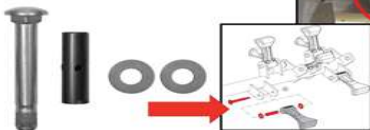
Discharge: The hammers and shroud should be positioned properly. The gap between the bottom of the hammers and the shroud lip should be between 1/8" and 1/4". The hammers should be in good shape. The front of the hammer head carries the load and if not correctly adjusted, the material will sandwich between it and the shroud, thus wearing out and around the bottom of the hammer. This can also wear a V-shape in the hammer head. Be sure the hammer bushings are in good condition and not worn out. This is important to get the most life out of the hammers. The deflector should be checked and adjusted so it closes tightly to prevent material leakage on the road.



Hammer adjustment gaps

Nylon Hammer Bushings and Washers

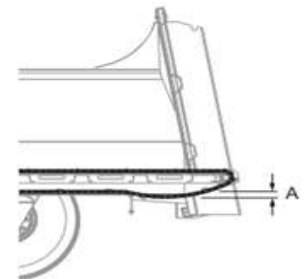
- Washers act as trash guards to help pro-long hammer bushings.
- Use lock tight on the hammer bolt threads and do not overtighten.
- Grease the bolt



Hammer hardware

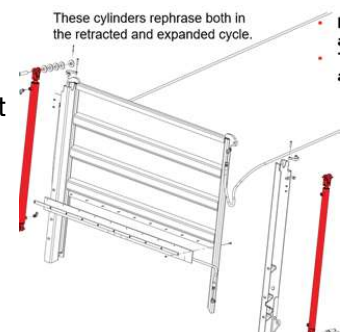
Specific to Box Spreaders:

It is crucial to keep an apron tightened correctly. Depending on the spreader, this may be done from front idler springs or if there are no springs- a 2" chain sag at the rear bottom of the guide is required. The exception to this is the PXL 185, 1100 and 1120 models, as they have a reversible apron. It is crucial that the apron on these models is kept tight. They are easily adjusted from the front of the spreader.

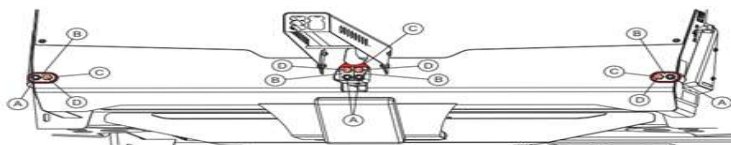


Apron adjustment

Your customers need to examine the beaters on their box spreader. Vertical beaters are balanced and must have a beater tooth in all positions. These must



Metering endgate cylinder bleeding



PXL apron adjustment

be tightened to 135 ft lbs. The spinners contain three bolts on paddles with shear bolts.

If the customer has a metering gate on the manure spreader, make sure the metering end gate remains in-phase to avoid damages to the end gate.

If there are no bleeders on the cylinder, follow the same procedure, but without the bleeder statement. Detailed information for both procedures can be found in the appropriate Owner's Manual.

These maintenance adjustments can help your customers have a successful spring. ♦

