OWNER'S GUIDE

ASSEMBLY • OPERATION • MAINTENANCE • PARTS



(Models 456R and 459R Shown)

21" SELF-PROPELLED **ROTARY MOWERS**

190-076-000 HARD TOP 129-451R000 190-078-000 SOFT BAG 129-452R000

Model Numbers

129-441R000

129-442R000

129-446R000

129-449R000

129-456R000

129-459R000

Important: Read Safety Rules and Instructions Carefully

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Dear Customer,

So often throughout the year we are all in a rush to meet our daily obligations.

However, we at MTD Products Inc are taking a quick moment out to say...

"Thank you for your business."

Sincerely, MTD PRODUCTS INC



INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN WITH THIS SYMBOL ARE FOR PERSONAL SAFETY. BE SURE TO FOLLOW THEM.

LIMITED WARRANTY

For one year from the date of original retail purchase, MTD PRODUCTS INC will either repair or replace, at its option, free of charge found to be defective in material or workmanship. Transportation charges for the movement of any power equipment unit or attachment are the responsibility of the purchaser. Transportation charges for any parts submitted for replacement under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser unless such return is requested by MTD PRODUCTS INC.

This warranty will not apply to any part which has become inoperative due to misuse, excessive use, accident, neglect, improper main enance, alterations, or unless the unit has been operated and maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished. This warranty does not apply to the engine, Peerless components, motor, battery (except as noted below) or component parts thereof. Please refer to the applicable manufacturer's warranty on these items.

A battery which proves defective with in ninety (90) days will be replaced without charge. After 90 days but within one year from the date of purchase, MTD will replace the defective battery for a charge of 1/12 of the current retail price of the battery for each full 30 day period between the date of purchase and the date of return.

This warranty will not apply where the unit has been used commercially.

Warranty service is available through your local authorized service dealer or distributor. If you do not know the dealer or distributor in your area, please write to the Customer Service Department of MTD.

The return of a complete unit will not be accepted by the factory unless prior written permission has been extended by MTD.

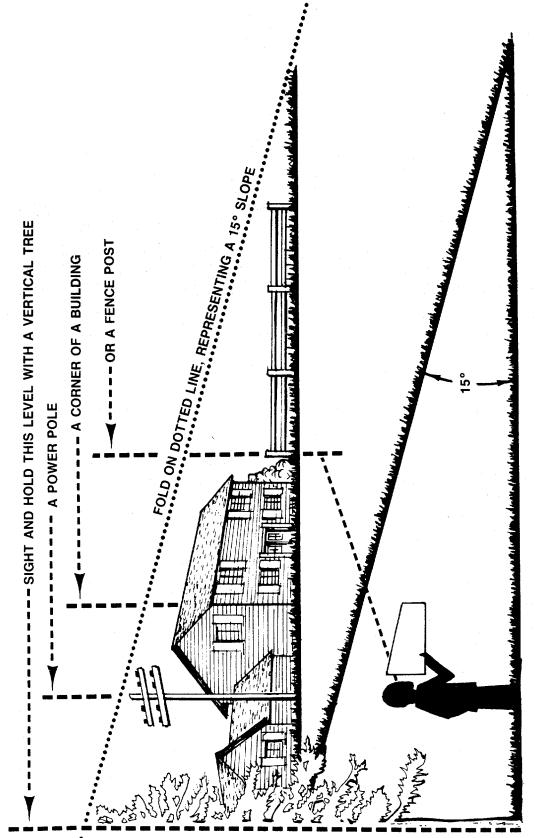
This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WARNING: This unit is equipped with an interral combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator.

In the State of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrester for the muffler is available through your nearest engine authorized service dealer.

SLOPE GAUGE

(Keep this sheet in a safe place for future reference.)





Do not mow on inclines with a slope in excess of 15 degrees (a rise of approximately 2½ feet every 10 feet). A riding mower could overturn and cause serious injury. If operating a walk-behind mower on such a slope, it is extremely difficult to maintain your footing and you could slip, resulting in serious injury.

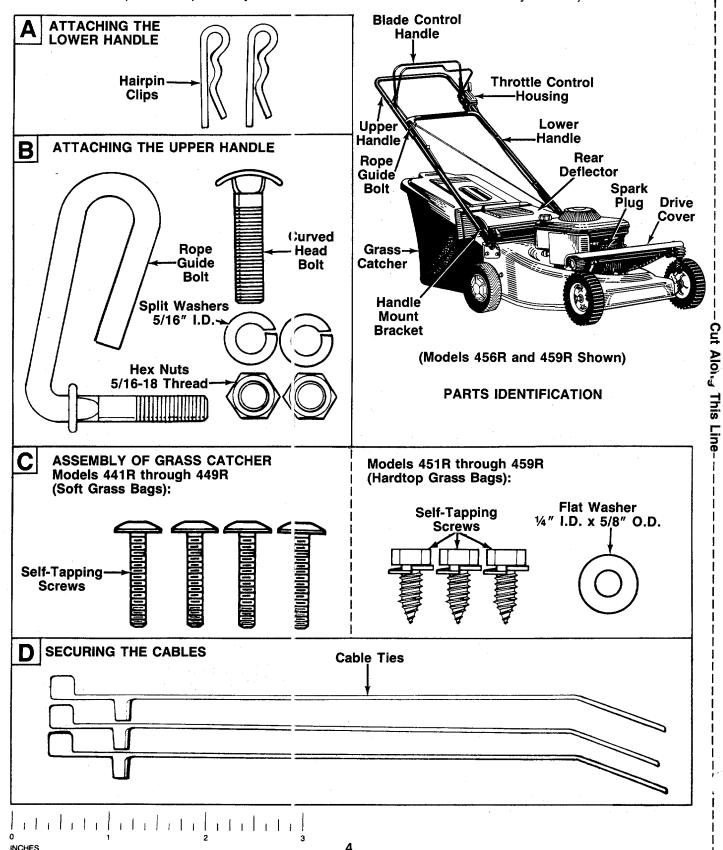
Operate WALK-BEHIND mowers across the face of slopes, never up and down slopes. Operate RIDING mowers up and down slopes, never across the face of slopes.

CONTENTS OF HARDWARE PACK/PARTS IDENTIFICATION

Remove this sheet from your owner's manual and lay the hardware on the illustration for identification purposes.

After assembly, keep the Slope Gauge which is on the reverse side of this sheet for future use.

(Hardware pack may contain extra items which are not used on your unit.)



IMPORTANT

RULES FOR SAFE OPERATION



THIS SYMBOL POINTS OUT IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH, IF NOT FOLLOWED, COULD ENDANGER THE PERSONAL SAFETY AND/OR PROPERTY OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS. READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS MANUAL BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO OPERATE YOUR LAWN MOWER. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY. WHEN YOU SEE THIS SYMBOL— HEED ITS WARNING.





Your lawn mower was built to be operated according to the rules for safe operation in this manual. As with any type of power equipment, carelessness or error on the part of the operator can result in serious injury. If you violate any of these rules, you may cause serious injury to yourself or others.



TRAINING

- I. Read this owner's manual carefully in its entirety before attempting to assemble or operate this machine. Be completely familiar with the controls and the proper use of this machine before operating it. Keep this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference and for ordering replacement parts.
- Your rotary mower is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore, exercise extreme caution at all times.
- Never allow children to operate a power mower. Only persons well acquainted with these rules of safe operation should be allowed to use your mower.
- 4. Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets. Stop engine when they are in the vicinity of your mower to help prevent blade contact or thrown object injury. Although the area of operation should be completely cleared of foreign objects, an object may have been overlooked and could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.



PREPARATION

- Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used. Remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects which could be picked up and thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.
- Always wear safety glasses or eye shields during operation or while performing an adjustment or repair, to protect eyes from foreign objects that may be thrown from the machine in any direction.
- Wear sturdy, rough-soled work shoes and close-fitting slacks and shirts to avoid entanglement in the moving parts. Never operate a unit in bare feet, sandals, or sneakers.
- 4. Check the fuel before starting the engine. Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. Do not fill the gasoline tank indoors, while the engine is running, or until engine has been allowed to cool for two minutes after running. Replace gasoline cap securely and wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine as it may cause a fire or explosion.
- 5. Disengage the self-propelled mechanism or drive clutch on units so equipped before starting the engine.
- 6. The blade control handle is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operation. Doing so makes the safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. The blade control handle must operate easily in both directions.
- Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
- Never operate the equipment in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury. Keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.

9. For your safety, use the slope gauge included as part of this manual to measure slopes before operating this unit on a sloped or hilly area. If the slope is greater than 15° as shown on the slope gauge, do not operate this unit on that area or serious injury could result.



 Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine. Excessive engine speeds are dangerous.

- Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times as the rotating blade can cause injury.
- 3. Stop the blade when crossing gravel drives, walks or roads.
- 4. After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, remove the wire from the spark plug, and thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage. Repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.
- If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
- 6. Shut the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass catcher or unclogging the chute. The cutting blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the engine is shut off. Never place any part of the body in the blade area until you are sure the blade has stopped rotating.
- Before cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire, and keep the wire away from the spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
- Do not run the engine indoors.
- Mow across the face of slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes. Do not mow excessively steep slopes. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury.
- Never operate mower without proper guards, plates or other safety protective devices in place.
- Do not operate this mower with the chute door open, unless the complete grass catcher is properly mounted on the mower.



MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

- Check the blade and engine mounting bolts at frequent intervals for proper tightness.
- Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
- Never store the equipment with gasoline in the tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
- To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
- Check the grass catcher bag frequently for wear or deterioration. For safety protection, replace only with new bag meeting original equipment specifications.

IMPORTANT: This unit is shipped WITHOUT GASOLINE or OIL. After assembly, service engine with gasoline and oil as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your unit.

NOTE: Reference to right or left hand side of the mower is observed from the operating position. Refer to parts identification on page 4 for location of parts when assembling the mower.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

UNPACKING

- 1. Remove the lawn mower from the carton by opening the top flaps and lifting the unit out. Be careful of the staples. Make certain all parts and literature have been removed from the carton before the carton is discarded.
- 2. Disconnect and ground the spark plug wire against the engine. Check beneath the deck for any cardboard packaging. Remove if present.
- 3. Stretch out all control cables and place on the floor. Be careful not to bend or kink the cables at any time during assembly.
- 4. Remove page four from this manual and lay the contents of the hardware pack on the illustration for identification.

ATTACHING THE LOWER HANDLE (Hardware A)

- -1. Attach the lower handle by placing the bottom holes in the lower handle over the weld pins on the handle mounting brackets on the rear of the deck. Make certain the instruction label on the lower handle can be read from the operating position.
 - 2. Using a pair of pliers, squeeze one leg of the lower handle against the handle mounting bracket. Insert the hairpin clip into the inner hole on the weld pin. See figure 1. Repeat on other side.



There are two (2) holes in the handle mounting brackets. Place the hairpin clip in the inner hole for operation. Outer hole is for storage.

ATTACHING THE UPPER HANDLE (Hardware B)

-1. Place the upper handle in position over the lower handle. The label on the throttle control housing and the control lever must be facing up.



The right hand side of the handle will be secured with the rope guide bolt. However, left handed operators may assemble the rope guide bolt to the left side of the handle for easier starting by following steps 2 and 3 and reversing the left and right hand instructions.

- 2. Secure the left hand side of upper handle using the curved head bolt, split washer and hex nut as shown in figure 2.
- 3. Insert the rope guide bolt through the right hand side of upper and lower handle. See figure 3. Secure with split washer and hex nut, finger tight only.

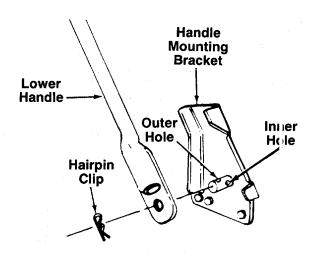


FIGURE 1.

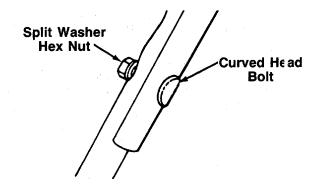


FIGURE 2.

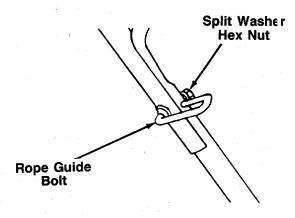


FIGURE 3.

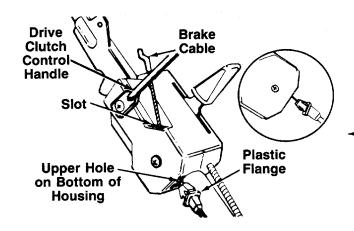


FIGURE 4.

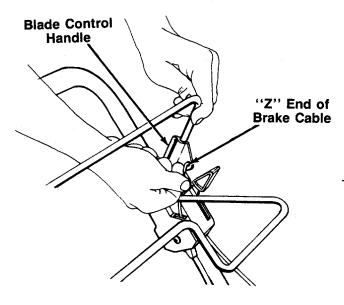


FIGURE 5.

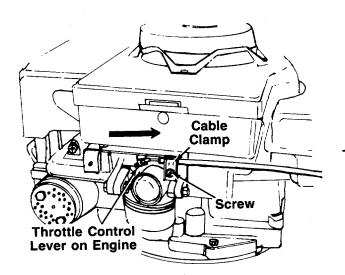


FIGURE 6A.-Models 441R & 451R

ATTACHING THE BRAKE CABLE

- The brake cable is attached to the engine, and has a "Z" fitting on the loose end. Route the brake cable below the lower handle. Place end of cable into the upper hole on the bottom of the control housing, and through the slot as shown. The angle of the plastic flange must be positioned downward as shown in figure 4. Be careful not to bend or kink the cable at any time.
- 2. Push the plastic fitting until it locks into the control housing.



Brake cable must be assembled as shown for proper blade brake operation.

3. Route the brake cable to the outside of the drive clutch control handle. See figure 4. Hook the "Z" end of the brake cable into the hole in the blade control handle from the inside to the outside as —shown in figure 5.

ATTACHING THE THROTTLE CABLE Models 441R and 451R Only:

- 1. Place the throttle control lever on the handle in FAST position.
- The throttle control cable is attached to the upper handle. Route the throttle control cable under the lower handle and inside the handle mounting bracket. Hook the "Z" end of the throttle control cable into the control lever on the engine as shown —in figure 6A.
- Loosen (do not remove) the screw on the cable clamp shown in figure 6A. Slip the control casing under the clamp (cable must move freely beneath the clamp).
- 4. Place the control lever on the engine in the full open position by pushing it as far toward the **rear** of the unit as it will go. Tighten the screw on the cable clamp to secure the cable in this position.

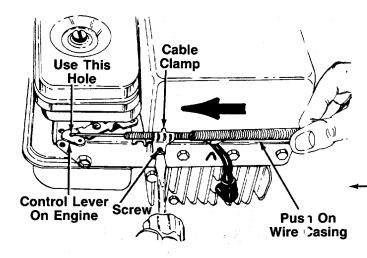


FIGURE 6B.-Models 442R & 452R

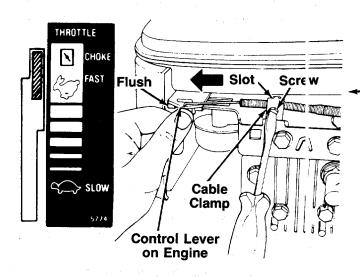


FIGURE 6C.-Models 446R, 449R, 456R & 459R

ATTACHING THE THROTTLE CABLE Models 442R and 452R Only:

- 1. Place the throttle control lever on the handle in FAST position.
- 2. The throttle control cable is attached to the upper handle. Route the throttle control cable under the lower handle and inside the handle mounting bracket. Hook the "Z" end of the throttle control cable into the arm on the control lever on the engine which has two holes, using the outside—hole as shown in figure 6B.
- Remove the screw on the cable clamp on the engine shown in figure 6B. Slip the control casing under the clamp. Replace the screw, but do not tighten (cable must still move freely beneath the clamp).
- 4. Slide the control lever on the engine as far toward the outside of the engine as it will go. Push the wire casing on the throttle control cable toward the control lever on the engine as shown in figure 6B as you tighten the screw on the cable clamp to secure the cable in this position.
- Loosen the screw on the clamp on the side of the engine. Secure the cable away from the muffler.
 Be careful not to bend or kink the cable. Tighten the screw.

ATTACHING THE THROTTLE CABLE Models 446R, 449R, 456R and 459R Only:

- Push the throttle control lever on the handle all the —way forward to CHOKE position. See figure 6C.
- The throttle control cable is attached to the upper handle. Route the throttle control cable under the lower handle and inside the handle mounting bracket. Hook the "Z" end of the throttle control cable into the hole in the control lever on the engine. See figure 6C.
- 3. Using a 5/16" wrench or nutdriver, remove the screw on the cable clamp shown in figure 6C. Slip the control casing under the clamp. Replace the screw (cable should be above the screw), but do not tighten (cable must still move freely beneath the clamp). Make certain the tab on the cable clamp is seated into the slot on the engine.
- 4. Push the control lever on the engine as far toward the outside of the engine as it will go. The edge of the control lever should be **flush** with the bracket on the engine. See figure 6C. Hold the control lever in this position as you tighten the screw on the cable clamp to secure the throttle cable.
- Loosen the screw on the clamp on the side of the engine. Slip the cable casing under the clamp to secure the cable away from the muffler. Be careful not to bend or kink the cable. Tighten the screw.

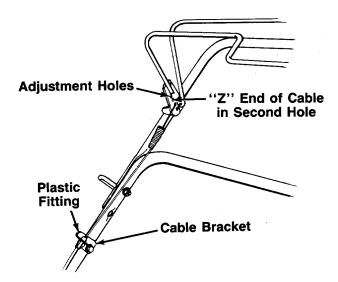


FIGURE 7.

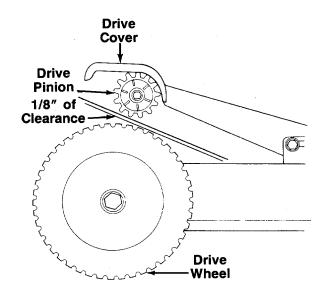


FIGURE 8.

ATTACHING THE DRIVE CLUTCH CONTROL CABLE

 The drive clutch control cable is attached to the drive cover, and has a spring on one end. Route the clutch cable inside the handle mount bracket and under the lower handle. Hook the spring on the end of the cable into the second hole from the bottom on the drive clutch control handle. See figure 7.

 Pull down on the plastic cable casing, and slip the control wire through the slot in the cable bracket.
 Push the plastic fitting on the end of the cable casing into the cable bracket.



If necessary, push down on the drive cover (see figure 8) to obtain sufficient slack in the cable.

To adjust the drive clutch control cable, proceed as follows.

- 1. Place the wheels in the lowest cutting height position.
- 2. Loosen the screw which secures the cable bracket.
- 3. With the drive clutch control handle released, pull down on the cable and cable bracket until there is approximately 1/8" clearance between the drive pinions and the drive wheels. See figures 7 and 8. Tighten the cable bracket in this position.

Note: Two pieces of cardboard removed from the carton may be used to measure the clearance as follows. Place a piece of cardboard between the drive pinion and wheel on each side of the unit. With the drive clutch control handle released, pull down on the cable and cable bracket until the drive pinions contact the cardboard. Tighten the cable bracket in this position. Remove the cardboard.

Before starting the mower, check the drive clutch adjustment as follows.

When the clutch control is engaged (clutch control handle is squeezed against the upper handle), the drive pinions should mesh with the gear tread tires. The drive pinions should clear the drive wheels when the clutch-is disengaged by a minimum of 1/8". See figure 8.

If adjustment is necessary, loosen the cable bracket on the upper handle and adjust it as instructed above. If additional adjustment is still required, unhook the cable from the clutch handle, and move it to a higher hole to obtain less clearance, or to the lowest hole for more clearance.

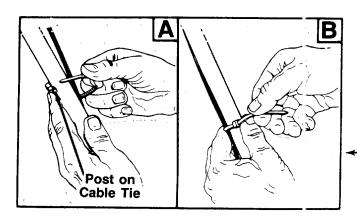


FIGURE 9.

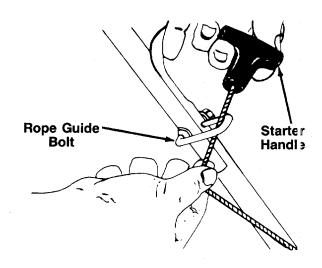


FIGURE 10.

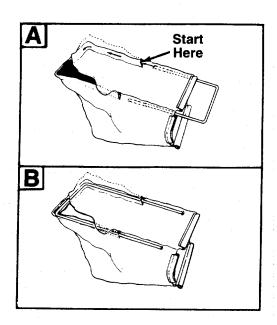


FIGURE 11.

SECURING THE CABLES (Hardware D)

Secure all cables to the handles as follows.

- A. Insert posts on cable ties into holes provided on the lower handle. Two go on the left side of the lower handle (one near the top and one near the bottom), and one goes on the right side of lower handle, at the bottom. The holes may be either on the inside—or outside of the handles. See figure 9A.
- B. Secure the cables with the cable ties. See figure 9B.
- C. Trim excess ends of cable ties.

ATTACHING THE STARTER ROPE

- The starter rope is inside the top of the engine. Additional rope may be wound around the starter handle. If so, unwind the rope from the handle.
- 2. With the spark plug wire disconnected and grounded, depress the blade control handle and pull the rope out of the engine.
- 3. Slip the starter rope into the rope guide bolt as —shown in figure 10.
- 4. Tighten the hex nut on the rope guide bolt securely.

FINAL ASSEMBLY OF MOWER

- 1. Attach hub caps (optional) to the wheels by lining up the hub caps with the hub of the wheels. Push to lock in position.
- 2. Make certain **all** nuts and bolts are tightened securely.

ASSEMBLY OF GRASS CATCHER (Hardware C)

There are two different types of grass catchers, those with soft grass bags and those with hardtop grass bags. Follow the instructions which pertain to your unit.

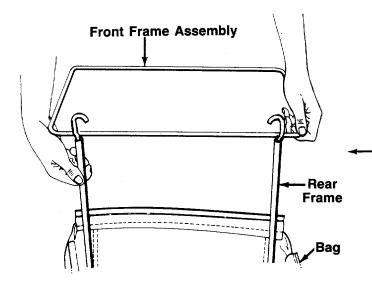


Make certain the grass bag is turned right side out before assembling (warning label will be on the outside).

Models 441R through 449R (Soft Grass Bags):

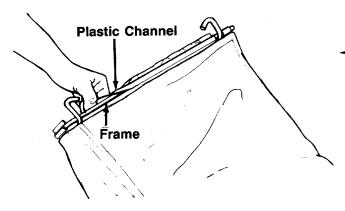
- 1. Place the end of the rear frame inside the grass—catcher bag. See figure 11A.
- Insert one end of the frame into the cloth channel inside the grass catcher bag. Feed all the material on one side of the frame before working it around the frame.

When this step is completed, both ends of the frame should be inside the bag. See figure 11B.



3. Join the rear frame and front frame assembly as ——shown in figure 12.

FIGURE 12.

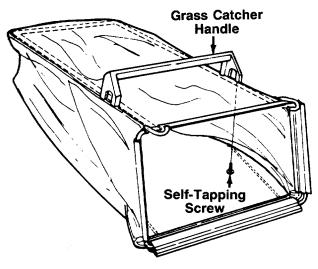


- 4. Secure front of bag to frame by working the plastic channels on bag over frame. See figure 13.
- 5. Close the top of the bag by stretching the loose material over the end of the frame.



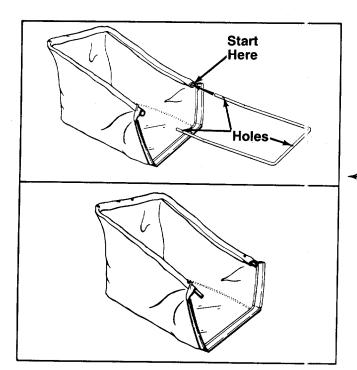
Never operate the mower with the bag open.

FIGURE 13.



Place the grass catcher handle in position on top
 — of the grass bag and frame as shown in figure 14.
 Secure with four self-tapping screws.

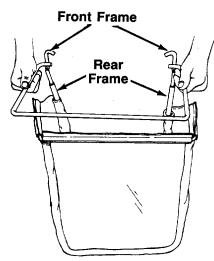
FIGURE 14.



Models 451R through 459R (Hardtop Grass Bags):

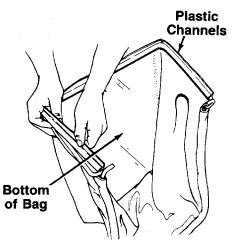
There are three holes in the rear frame. With the
 — holes on the upper side as shown in figure 15, in sert one end of the rear frame into the cloth chan nel on the edge of the grass catcher bag. Feed all
 the material on one side of the frame before work ing it around the frame. See figure 15.

FIGURE 15.



 Slide the ends of the front frame assembly into the ends of the rear frame as shown in figure 16.

FIGURE 16.



 Secure front of bag to front frame by slipping plastic channels on sides and bottom of bag over frame. See figure 17.

FIGURE 17.

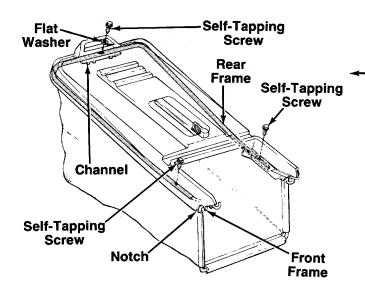
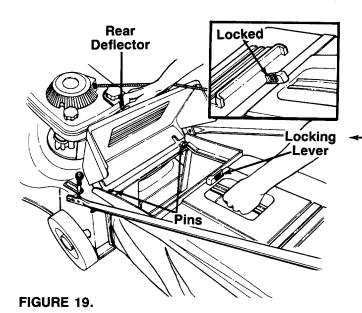


FIGURE 18.



- 4. Attach the hardtop cover to the grass catcher as —follows. See figure 18.
 - a. Place the cover in position on top of the grass catcher. Press the rear frame into the channel on the rear of the cover (beneath the rear handle).
 - b. Slide the notches on the sides of the cover over the front catcher frame.
 - c. Attach rear of cover to frame using the flat washer and one self-tapping screw as shown in figure 18. Attach the sides of the cover to frame with the other two self-tapping screws.

ATTACHING BAG TO MOWER

Lift the rear deflector on the mower. Place the hooks on the grass catcher over the pins on the back of the mower. See figure 19. Release the rear deflector. Turn the locking lever to the locked position to secure the rear deflector. See figure 19, inset.

To remove the grass catcher, turn the locking lever to the unlocked position and lift the rear deflector on the mower. Lift the grass catcher up, over the pins on the back of the mower. Release the deflector.

CONTROLS

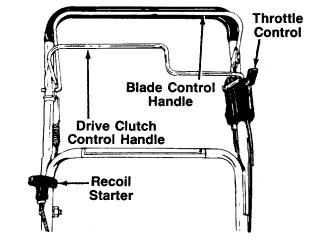


FIGURE 20.

BLADE CONTROL HANDLE

WARNING THIS CONTROL MECHANISM IS A SAFETY DEVICE NEVER ATTEMPT TO BYPASS ITS OPERATIONS

The blade control handle is located on the upper handle of the mower. See figure 20. The blade control handle must be depressed in order to operate the unit. Release the blade control handle to stop the engine and blade.



The blade will be rotating whenever the engine is running.

THROTTLE CONTROL

The throttle control is located on the left side of the upper handle. It is used to regulate the engine speed.



The throttle control cannot be used to stop the engine.

RECOIL STARTER

The recoil starter handle is attached to the hand e. See figure 20. Stand behind the unit in the operatin $\mathfrak z$ position to start the unit.

DRIVE CLUTCH CONTROL

Squeezing the drive clutch control handle engages the drive mechanism to the wheels. Releasing the clutch control stops the wheels from driving. Release the drive clutch control to slow down when negotiating an obstacle, making a turn or stopping. See figure 20.

OPERATION



FIGURE 21.

Keep hands and feet away from the chute area on cutting deck. See figure 21.



For shipping purposes your mower is set with the wheels in a low cutting height position. For best results raise the cutting position until it is determined which height is best for your lawn. See cutting height adjustment section.

GAS AND OIL FILL-UP

Service the engine with gasoline and oil as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your mower. Read instructions carefully.



Your unit has been shipped without oil; however, a small amount of oil may be present from the factory. Do not overfill.



Never fill fuel tank indoors, with engine running or until the engine has been allowed to cool for at least two minutes after running.

BEFORE STARTING

Before each use, check drive clutch adjustment. When the clutch handle is engaged, the drive pinions should mesh simultaneously with the gear tread tires. When the clutch handle is released, the pinions should clear the wheels by a minimum of 1/8". See drive clutch adjustment on page 16 for further details.

TO START ENGINE AND ENGAGE BLADE



When starting the unit for the first time, face the mower against a solid object such as a wall, fence, etc. Start the unit, and if it shows any signs of motion with the drive clutch control disengaged, shut the engine off immediately. Refer to page 16 for further instructions on the drive clutch adjustment.

 Attach spark plug wire to spark plug. If unit is equipped with a rubber boot over the end of the spark plug wire, make certain the metal loop on the end of the spark plug wire (inside the rubber boot) is fastened securely over the metal tip on the spark plug. See figure 22.

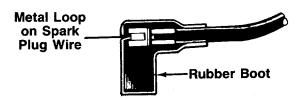


FIGURE 22.

2. Models 446R, 449R, 456R and 459R only: Open fuel shut-off valve. See figure 23.

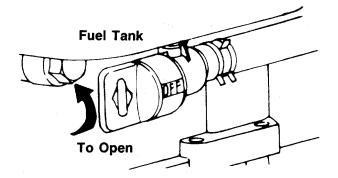


FIGURE 23.-Models 446R, 449R, 456R and 459R

- Models 441R, 442R, 451R and 452R: Move the throttle control lever to FAST or START position.
 Models 446R, 449R, 456R and 459R: Move throttle control lever to CHOKE position.
- 4. **Tecumseh Engines Only:** Prime engine as instructed in separate engine manual.
- Standing behind the unit, depress the blade control handle and hold it against the upper handle.
 Be certain the drive clutch handle is released.
- 6. Grasp the recoil starter handle and pull back rapidly, extending rope fully. Return it slowly to the rope guide bolt.
- 7. After engine starts, move throttle control to desired engine speed. (On models 446R, 449R, 456R and 459R, move the throttle control at least halfway back, then forward to obtain FAST position.)



If any problems are encountered, refer to the Trouble Shooting Guide on page 19.

TO STOP ENGINE AND BLADE

1. Release the blade control handle to stop the engine and blade.



The blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the engine is shut off.

2. Disconnect the spark plug wire and ground it against the engine to prevent accidental starting while equipment is unattended.

USING YOUR ROTARY MOWER

Be sure that lawn is clear of stones, sticks, wire, or other objects which could damage lawn mower or engine. Such objects could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator and others.

For best results, do not cut wet grass because it tends to stick to the underside of the mower, preventing proper discharge of grass clippings, and could cause you to slip and fall. New grass, thick grass or wet grass may require a narrower cut. Blade speed should be adjusted to the condition of the lawn.

The best mowing pattern is one that allows the clippings to discharge towards the uncut part of the lawn. This permits recutting of the clippings to further pulverize them. When cutting high weeds, discharge towards cut portion, then recut at right angles to first direction.

For best results, cut off one-third or less of the total length of the grass. Lawn should be cut in the fall as long as there is growth.

This mower is designed to be operated at full throttle to give you the best cut and do the most effective job of bagging the cut grass.



If you strike a foreign object, stop the engine. Remove wire from spark plug, thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage, and repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower. Extensive vibration of the mower during operation is an indication of damage. The unit should be promptly inspected and repaired.

ADJUSTMENTS



Do not at any time make any adjustment to lawn mower without first stopping engine and disconnecting spark plug wire.

CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

An adjusting plate and thumb lever at each wheel position provides cutting height adjustment. Each adjusting plate has nine positions. Height of cut will be changed when the thumb lever is moved from one hole to another. Simply depress the lever towards wheel and move wheel and lever assembly to desired position. See figure 24.

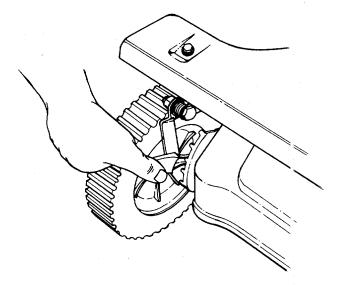


FIGURE 24.

DRIVE CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT

The drive pinions should be a minimum of 1/8" from the drive wheels when the clutch is disengaged (clutch control handle is not squeezed against upper handle). Refer to figure 8. When the clutch control is en jaged, the drive pinions should mesh with the tires.

If adjustment is necessary, loosen the screw which secures the cable bracket on the handle. Adjust until there is at least 1/8" of clearance. If additional adjustment is required, unhook the cable from the clutch handle, and move it to a higher hole to obtain less clearance, or to a lower hole for more clearance. Retighten the cable bracket when the correct adjustment is reached.

CHAIN ADJUSTMENT

Check for correct chain adjustment and alignment after first five to ten hours of operation. Adjust as follows:

1. Loosen (do not remove) the hex bolt on each side of the pinion pivot plate. See figure 25.

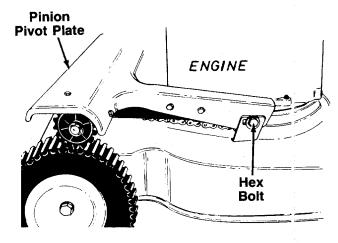


FIGURE 25.

- Pull on the left side of the pivot plate, by hand, until the proper chain tension is achieved. Tighten the hex bolt.
- Pull on the right side of the pivot plate until the clearance between the pinion and wheel is equal on both sides. Tighten the hex bolt.
- 4. Recheck for correct adjustment periodically.

THROTTLE

The throttle control wire assembly can be adjusted if necessary. To adjust the throttle control cable, loosen the screw on the cable clamp shown in figure 6. Place the throttle control lever on the handle in FAST or CHOKE position. Adjust as instructed in step 4 of "Attaching the Throttle Control Cable" in Assembly Instructions.

CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS



If any adjustments are made to the engine while the engine is running (e.g. carburetor), keep clear of all moving parts. Be careful of heated surfaces and muffler.

Minor carburetor adjustment may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude and load. Refer to the separate engine manual packed with your mower for carburetor adjustment information.



A dirty air cleaner will cause an engine to run rough. Be certain air cleaner is clean and attached to the carburetor before adjusting carburetor. Refer to the separate engine manual.

LUBRICATION



Always stop engine and disconnect spark plug wire before cleaning, lubricating or doing any kind of work on lawn mower.

Blade Control—Lubricate the pivot points on the blade control handle and the brake cable at least once a season with light oil. The blade control must operate freely in both directions.

Discharge Chute Deflector—The torsion spring and pivot point should be lubricated periodically with light oil to prevent any rust or binding. Deflector must work freely.

Wheels—Mower may be provided with ball bearing wheels. Lubricate at least once a season with light oil. Also, if the wheels are removed for any reason, lubricate the surface of the axle bolt and the inner surface of the wheel with light oil. A 4 oz. plastic bottle of light oil lubricant is available. Order part number 737-0170. Engine oil may also be used.

Engine—Follow engine manual for lubrication instructions.

Throttle—Periodically lubricate throttle control lever and throttle wire assembly with a few drops of light oil for ease of operation.

Chain—The chain should be lubricated periodically with a few drops of light oil to prevent any rust or binding. Use very little or no oil if unit is being used in a dusty or sandy area.

MAINTENANCE



Be sure to disconnect and ground the spark plug wire before performing any repairs or maintenance.



When tipping the unit, empty the fuel tank and keep engine spark plug side up.

TROUBLE SHOOTING

Refer to page 19 of this manual for trouble shooting information.

CUTTING BLADE

When removing the cutting blade for sharpening or replacement, protect hands by using heavy gloves or a rag to grasp the cutting blade. Remove the bolt and blade bell washer which hold the blade and adapter to the engine crankshaft. Remove the blade and adapter from the crankshaft.



Periodically inspect the blade adapter for cracks, especially if you strike a foreign object. Replace when necessary.

When sharpening the blade, follow the original angle of grind as a guide. It is **extremely important** that each cutting edge receives an equal amount of grinding to

prevent an unbalanced blade. An unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration when rotating at high speeds, may cause damage to the mower and could break, causing personal injury.

The blade can be tested by balancing it on a round shaft screwdriver. Remove metal from the heavy side until it balances evenly.

Before reassembling the blade and the blade adapter to the unit, lubricate the engine crankshaft, the inner surface of the blade adapter and the center bolt with light oil. A 4 oz. plastic bottle of light oil lubricant is available. Order part number 737-0170. Engine oil may also be used.

When replacing the blade, be sure to install the blade with the side of the blade marked "Bottom" (or with part number) facing the ground when the mower is in the operating position.

Blade Mounting Torque

Center Bolt 375 in. lb. min., 450 in. lb. max. If lacking torque wrench, tighten until the blade bell washer is flattened.

To insure safe operation of your unit, **all** nuts and bolts must be checked periodically for correct tightness.

DECK

The underside of mower deck should be cleaned after each use to prevent a buildup of grass clippings, leaves, dirt or other matter. If this debris is allowed to accumulate, it will invite rust and corrosion, and may cause an uneven discharge of grass clippings at the next cutting.

The deck may be cleaned by tilting the mower and scraping clean with a suitable tool (make certain the spark plug wire is disconnected).

ENGINE

Refer to the separate engine manual for all engine maintenance instructions.

Maintain **engine oil** as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your unit. Read and follow instructions carefully.

Service air cleaner every 25 hours under normal conditions. Clean every few hours under extremely dusty conditions. Poor engine performance and flooding usually indicates that the air cleaner should be serviced. Move the height adjusters to the lowest cutting height to access the air cleaner. To service the air cleaner, refer to the separate engine manual packed with your unit.

The **spark plug** should be cleaned and the gap reset once a season. Spark plug replacement is recommended at the start of each mowing season; check engine manual for correct plug type and gap specifications.

Clean the engine regularly with a cloth or brush. Keep the cooling system (blower housing area) clean to permit proper air circulation which is essential to engine performance and life. Be certain to remove all grass, dirt and combustible debris from muffer area.



When storing any type of power equipment in an unventilated or metal storage shed, care should be taken to rustproof the equipment. Using a light oil or silicone, coat the equipment, especially chains, springs, cables and all moving parts.

OFF-SEASON STORAGE

The following steps should be taken to prepare lawn mower for storage.

- 1. Clean and lubricate mower thoroughly as described in the lubrication instructions.
- Refer to engine manual for correct engine storage instructions.
- 3. Coat mower's cutting blade with chassis grease to prevent rusting.
- 4. Store mower in a dry, clean area.

HANDLE STORAGE

The handle may be placed in an upright position for storage. Move hairpin clips to outer hole on weld pins. See figure 1. Press outward on the bottom of the lower handle and push forward. The handle will lock in this position.

To place the handle in the operating position, remove the starter rope from the rope guide bolt. Grasp the lower handle at the bottom, press outward slightly and tip the handle backward. Place the hairpin clips in the inner holes. With the spark plug wire disconnected and grounded, depress the blade control handle and pull the starter rope out from the engine. Slip the starter rope into the rope guide bolt.



The use of any accessory on this Rotary Mower other than those manufactured by the mower manufacturer is **not** recommended.



- 1. DO NOT operate the mower wi hout the entire grass catcher or chute deflector in place.
- 2. DO NOT operate the mower will hout the protective shield on the rear of the deck in place.



Under normal usage bag materia is subject to wear and should be checked periodically. Be sure any replacement bag con plies with the mower manufacturer's recommendations.

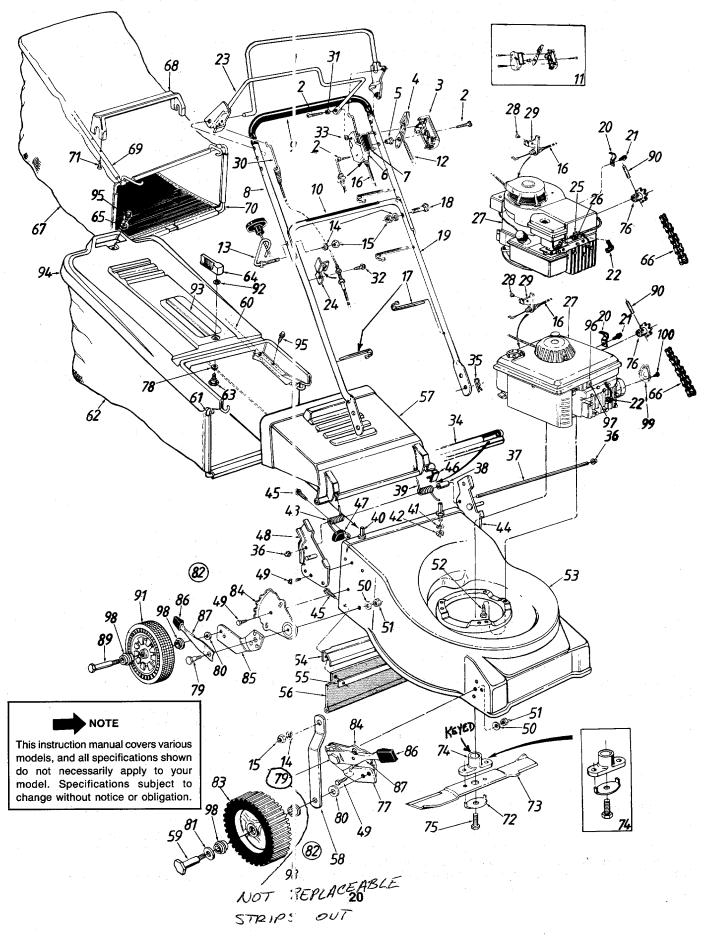
For replacement bags, use only actory authorized replacement bag.

Trouble Shooting Guide

Trouble Officially duride						
Trouble	Possible Cause(s)	Corrective Action				
Engine fails to start	 Blade control handle disengaged. Spark plug wire disconnected. Throttle control lever not in CHOKE or START position. Fuel shut-off valve closed (if so equipped). Fuel tank empty, or stale fuel. Blocked fuel line. Faulty spark plug. Engine flooded. 	 Engage blade control handle. Connect wire to spark plug. Move throttle lever to CHOKE or START position. Open fuel shut-off valve. Fill tank with clean, fresh gasoline. Clean fuel line. Clean, adjust gap or replace. Remove spark plug, dry the plug, and crank engine with plug removed and throttle in off position. Replace spark plug, connect wire and resume starting procedures. 				
Engine runs erratic	 Unit running in CHOKE or START position. Spark plug wire loose. Blocked fuel line or stale fuel. Vent in gas cap plugged. Water or dirt in fuel system. Dirty air cleaner. Carburetor out of adjustment. 	 Move throttle lever to FAST position. Connect and tighten spark plug wire. Clean fuel line; fill tank with clean, fresh gasoline. Clear vent. Drain fuel tank. Refill with fresh fuel. Clean air cleaner.† Adjust carburetor.† 				
Engine overheats	Engine oil level low. Air flow restricted. Carburetor not adjusted properly.	Fill crankcase with proper oil. Remove blower housing and clean.† Adjust carburetor.†				
Occasional skip (hesitates) at high speed	 Carburetor idle speed too slow. Spark plug gap too close. Carburetor idle mixture adjustment improperly set. 	Adjust carburetor.† Adjust gap to .030". Adjust carburetor.†				
Idles poorly	 Spark plug fouled, faulty or gap too wide. Carburetor improperly adjusted. Dirty air cleaner. 	Reset gap to .030" or replace spark plug. Adjust carburetor.† Clean air cleaner.†				
Mower will not drive	 Drive clutch cable out of adjustment. Chain out of adjustment or stretched. 	Adjust drive clutch cable (see adjustment section). Adjust or replace chain.				
Excessive vibration	 Cutting blade loose or unbalanced. Bent cutting blade. 	Tighten blade and adapter. Balance blade. Replace blade.				
Mower will not discharge grass	 Engine speed too low. Wet grass. Excessively high grass. 	 Set throttle between 3/4 and full throttle. Do not mow when grass is wet; wait until later to cut. Mow once at a high cutting height, then mow again at desired height or make a narrower cutting swath (1/2 width). 				
Uneven cut	 Wheels not positioned correctly. Dull blade. 	Place all four wheels in same height position. Sharpen or replace blade.				

†Refer to separate engine manual packed with your unit. **Note:** For repairs beyond the minor adjustments listed above, contact your local authorized service dealer.

Models 441R thru 459R

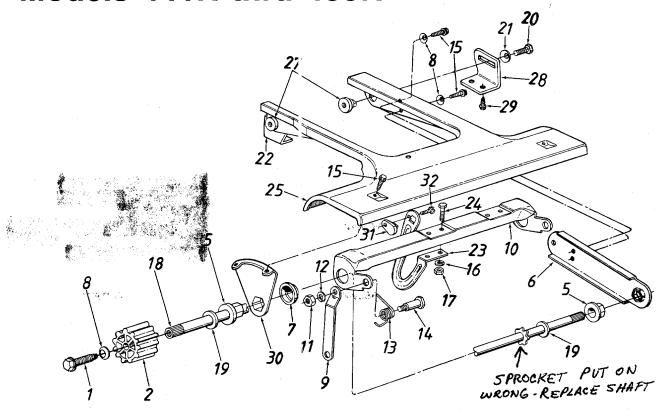


Models 441R thru 459R

PARTS LIST FOR MODELS 441R THRU 459R ROTARY MOWERS

REF.	PART	CODE	PARIS LIST FOR MODELS 44 IF	REF.	PART	CODE	`
NO.	NO.	CODE	DESCRIPTION	NO.	NO.	CODE	DESCRIPTION
1	14321		Control Handle Ass'y.	50			Bell-Wash39" I.D. x 1.38" O.D.
2	710-0796		Truss Mach. B-Tap Scr.	51	712-0798		Hex Nut 3/8-16 Thd.*
			#12 x 1.5" Lg.	52	710-0654A	N	Hex TT-Tap Scr. 3/8-16 x 1"
3	731-0817		Control Panel Half	53	16998	638	21" Deck Ass'y.
4	731-0972	N	Throttle Control Lever		17014		Chute Baffle
5	731-0524		Control Disc Pin Clutch Panel Half	55 56	17003 731-0669		Retaining Strip 14.25" Lg.
7	731-0816 777-5774		Control Label—Throttle	57	731-0859		Rear Flap 17.30" Lg. Rear Chute Deflector
	749-0438A		Upper Handle (Painted)		16532A	N	Link 5.06" Lg.
	749-0436A	N	Upper Handle (Chrome)		738-0144	.,	Eront Axle Bolt
9	718-0145		Grip (Optional)	60		N	Como Caralacio Eragilaria
10	777-5776		Instruction Label—Handle	61	747-0693B	N	Are the Court of the English (September 1997)
11	753-0430		Control Housing Comp.		764-0252		
12	746-0672		Throttle Wire—58" Lg. (B&S)	26 3	738-0137		告知何是可能可能的。 第111年第11日 第11日 第11日 第11日 第11日 第11日 第11日
	746-0640		Throttle Wire—45" Lg. (Tec.)	64	720-0224		Le exacelerates de la competition de la competit
13		N -	Rope Guide Bolt	65	736-0463		H-washe 26 Harden
	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	66	713-0311		#48 Chain 1/2" Pitch 50 Links
			Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*		704.0040		(Endless)
16	746-0477A	N	Control Cable—43" Lg. (B&S)		764-0246		Grass Bagt Sofr
17	746-0479A	N	Throttle Wire 55" Lg. (Tec.)	68	731-0801	NI NI	Bag Handlet
17 18			Cable Tie Curved Carriage Bolt 5/16-18	69 70		N N	Rear Catcher Frame† Front Catcher Frame†
10	710-0071		x 1.38" Lg.	71	710-1025	1	Hex AB-Tap Scr. #12 x 1.25"†
19	749-0504C	N	Lower Handle (Painted)	72			Blade Bell-Wash44" I.D. x 2.38"
.	749-0505C	N	Lower Handle (Chrome)	73			21" Blade
20	12894A		Cable Clamp	74			Blade Adapter Kit
21	710-0429		Hex B-Tap Scr. #10 x .38" Lg.	75	710-1044	N	Hex Bolt 3/8-24 x 1.5" Lg.
22	735-0639		Spark Plug Boot (Optional)	76	713-0308		10 Tooth Sprocket Ass'y.
, 23	16391		S.P. Bail Ass'y.	77	14766		Pivot Bar—R.F. & L.R.
24			Cable Mounting Brkt.	78	736-0286		Bowed Washer
25	751-0369		Cable Clamp (442R, 452R)	79	738-0507B	N	Shid. Bolt .50" Dia. x .357"
26	710-0227		Hex AB-Tap Scr. #8 x .5" Lg.	80			Bell-Wash38" I.D. x .88" O.D.
27	•		(442R, 452R)	81 82			FI-Wash531" I.D.
28	728-0171		Engine Pop Rivet .156″ Dia.	02	10107		Front Height Adj. Ass'y. Comp.—L.F. & R.R.
29	14924	Ė	Cable Bracket		16106		Front Height Adj. Ass'y. Comp.
30	746-0627		Drive Cable—47" Lg.		10100		R.F. & L.R.
31	750-0649		Spacer .23" I.D.	83	734-0538		Front Wheel Ass'y. Comp.
32	710-0726		Hex Wash. AB-Tap Scr.	84		N	Index Plate
			5/16" x .75" Lg.	85	14765		Pivot Bar—L.F. & R.R.
	736-0370		Spr. Wash206" I.D.	86			Spring Lever Knob
1	731-0858		Seal—Extrusion	87	1	N	Spring Lever
	714-0104		Int. Cotter Pin 5/16" Dia.	89			Rear Axle Bolt
	726-0106	N.	Cap Speed Nut	90			Spring Pin 3/16" Dia.
	747-0698A	N	Hinge Pin 17.75" Lg.	91	t .		Rear Wheel Ass'y. Comp.
38 39	_	N	Spacer .255" I.D. Torsion Spring—L.H.	92	736-0498 731-0856		Internal L-Wash. ¼" I.D.
	711-0805	14	Shid. Pin 3/8-24 x 1.43" Lg.	94		N *	Haratop Bag Covert
41			L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.*	95			Hex AB-Tap Scr. 1/4 x 62" Lg.ft
42			Hex Jam Nut 3/8-24 Thd.	96	1		Cable Clamp (446R, 449R,
43		N	Torsion Spring—R.H.				456R, 459R)
	12297A	N	Handle Brkt. Ass'y.—L.H.	97	710-0436		Hex B-Tap Scr. #10 x .62"
45	710-1017		Torx Mach. AB-Tap Scr. 1/4 x				Lg. (446R, 449R, 456R, 459R)
			62"_Lg	98		245.A	Flanged Brg50" I.D. (2 Req'd.)
46		N	Deflector Plug	99	751- 0354A	N, F	Muffler Deflector (B&S)
47			Corner Plug	100	751-0534 [©]	LIUB CAP	Muffler Deflector (Tec.)
× 48 40		N	Handle Brkt. Ass'y.—R.H.	100	710-0227	C	Hex Wash. AB-Tap Scr. #8 x
49	710-0892		Hex L-Wash. AB-Tap Scr.			1	.5" Lg.
			/+ A .UL Ly.	L			

Models 441R thru 459R



PARTS LIST FOR MODELS 441R THRU 459R ROTARY MOWERS

REF. NO.	PART NO.	CODE	DESCRIPTION	REF. NO.	PART NO.	CODE	DESCRIPTION
1	710-0642		Hex Wash. Hd. Tap Scr	16	736-0329		L-Wash. 1/4" I.D.*
			½-20 x .75" Lg.	17	712-0287		Hex Nut 1/4-20 Thd.*
2	731-0908		Wheel Drive Pinion—₩	18	738-0732		Drive Shaft Ass'y.
5	741-0503		Hex Flange Brg504" I D.	19	736-0160		Fl-Wash531" I.D. x .93" O.D.
6	17018		Hex Bearing Support	20	710-0759		Hex Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*
7	741-0504		Flange Bearing .879" 1.1).	21	736-0242	-	Bell-Wash345" I.D. x .88" O.D.
8	736-0270		Bell-Wash265" I.D. x .75" O.D.	22	16531B	N	Pivot Bracket—R.H.
9	16532A	N	Link 5.06" Lg.	23	17185		Engagement Arm
10	16832		Drive Engagement Cam	24	710-0258		Hex Bolt 1/4-20 x .62" Lg.
11	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	25	17021	638	Front Pinion Pivot Cover
12	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	27	738-0739		Shoulder Nut
13	732-0569		Torsion Spring—R.H.	28	14759B	N	Pivot Bracket—L.H.
	732-0570		Torsion Spring—L.H.	29	710-0892		Hex Wash. Hd. AB-Tap Scr.
			(Not Shown)				⅓ x .62" Lg.
14	738-0754	1.5 4,55	Shoulder Bolt .437" Dia	30	17017		Hex Bearing Axle Brkt.
15	710-0892			31	746-0606		Barrel Cable Hold-Down—R.H.
		1	½″ x .62″ Lg.	32	710-0919		Hex B-Tap Scr. #10 x .44" Lg.

^{*}For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washer slocally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

NOTE: The engine is not under warranty by the mower manufacturer. If repairs or service is needed on the engine, please contact your nearest authorized engine service outlet. Check the "Yellow Pages" of your telephone book under "Engines—Gasoline."

CODE: N notates a new part (not previously existing). A three digit number is the color code (use if color or finish is important when ordering parts). See chart below. [i.e., (part no.)-638 for Red Finish].

Color Codes

460—Green Flake 483—Charcoal Grey 498—Yellow 499—Beige	630—Blue 635—Grey 636—White 637—Black
606—Orange	638—Red
629—Silver Flake	640—Green

PARTS INFORMATION

POWER EQUIPMENT PARTS AND SERVICE

Parts and service are available through the authorized service firn's listed below. All orders should specify the model number of your urit, part numbers, description of parts and the quantity of each part required.

BRIGGS AND STRATTON, TECUMSEH AND PEERLESS PARTS AND SERVICE

Briggs & Stratton, Tecumseh and Peerless parts and service should be handled by your nearest authorized engine service firm. Check the yellow pages of your telephone directory under the listing **Engines—Gasoline**, Briggs & Stratton or Tecumseh Lauson.

NOTE: If any parts are found to be missing or defective upon assembly of this unit, write to advise the factory so that immediate replacement can be made.

ALABAMA Auto Electric & Carburetor Co.	BIRMINGHAM . 2625 4th Ave. S. Box 2466	NEW YORK Gamble Dist., Inc	CARTHAGE West End Ave.
ARKANSAS	NORTH LITTLE ROCK	NORTH CAROLINA	Box 389 13619 GREENSBORO
Sutton's Lawn Mower Shop	Boy 368 Rt / 70117	Dixie Sales Company	. 335 N. Green Box 1408 27402
CALIFORNIA Billious	PORTERVILLE . 75 North D Street 93257	OHIO Stebe's Mid-State Mower Supply	CARROLL Box 366, 71 High St43112
COLORADO Spitzer Industrial Products Co			CLEVELAND . 7900 Lorain Ave 44102
FLORIDA	Washington St 80229 JACKSONVILLE		WADSWORTH
Radco Distributors	. 4909 Victor St.		. 687 Seville Rd44281 YOUNGSTOWN
0 45 50	Box 5459	Burton Supply Co	Box 929 44501
GEORGIA		PENNSYLVANIA EECO Inc	HARRISBURG . 4021 N. 6th St 17110
	. 2834 Church St30344 LYONS	Thompson Bubber Co	WILLOW GROVE 850 Davisville Rd 19090
Keen Edge Co	LYONS 8615 Ogden Ave60534 FIKHART		PITTSBURGH . 11101 Frankstown Rd15235
Parts & Sales Inc	Pay 977	Front Debarts & Cons	PUNXSUTAWNEY . R.D. 2
IOWA	DUBUQUE		SCRANTON
LOUISIANA Jourdan Engine Co	. 2551 J.F. Kennedy52001 LAFAYETTE	TENNESSEE	. 1133-35 Wyoming Ave. 18509 KNOXVILLE
	Box 3503 70501	Ace Distributors	. 2103 Magnolia 37917 MEMPHIS
MARYLAND Center Supply Co	TAKOMA PARK . 6867 New Hampshire	American Sales & Service, Inc TEXAS	. 3035-43 Bellbrook 38116 DALLAS
MASSACHUSETTS	Ave	TEXAS Marr Brothers, Inc.	423 E. Jefferson 75203 SAN ANTONIO
Morton B. Collins Co MICHIGAN	. 300 Birnie Ave	Engine House Inc	4918 Golden Quail 78249
Power Equipment Dist	. 340 Hubbard 48043	Powered Products	SALT LAKE CITY 1661 N. Beck St 84116
Hance Distributing Inc	PLYMOUTH . 12795 16th Ave. North . 55441	RBI Corp	101 Cedar Ridge Dr 23005
	. 4159 Shoreline Dr33045	Equip. Northwest	SEATTLE 1410 14th Ave98122
Automotive Equip. Service	KANSAS CITY . 3117 Holmes St 34109	WISCONSIN Wisconsin Magneto Inc	MILWAUKEE 4727 N. Teutonia St 53209
NEW JERSEY Piersons	ALLOWAY . Canal St., Box 494 38001	PUERTO RICO CIE & Associates, Inc	Box 427
			Ramey Station 00604

WARRANT\ PARTS AND SERVICE POLICY

(0588)

The purpose of warranty is to protect the customer from defects in workmanship and materials, defects which are NOT detected at the time of manufacture. It does not provide for the unlimited and un estricted replacement of parts. Use and maintenance are the responsibility of the customer. The manufacturer cannot assume responsibility for conditions over which it has no control. Simply put, if it's the manufacturer's fault, it's the customer's responsibility; if it's the customer's responsibility.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY INCLUDES:

- 1. Replacement of Missing Parts on new equipment.
- 2. Replacement of Defective Parts within the warranty period.
- 3. Repair of Defects within the warranty period.

All claims MUST be substantiated with the following information:

- Model Number, Serial Number and/or Data Code of unit involved.
- 2. Date unit was purchased or first put into service.
- 3. Date of Failure.
- 4. Nature of Failure.