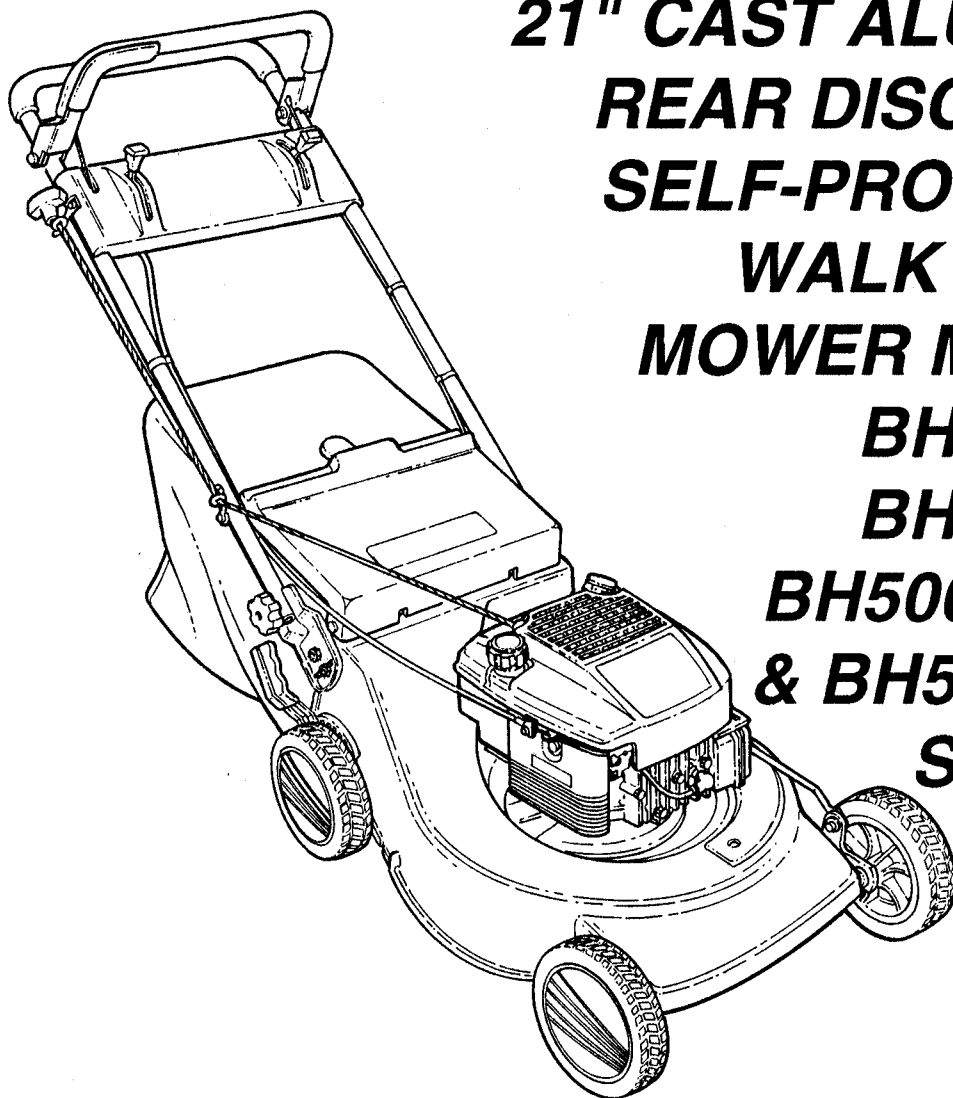


**Safety Instructions &
Operator's Manual for**

BLACK HAWK™



**21" CAST ALUMINUM
REAR DISCHARGE
SELF-PROPELLED
WALK BEHIND
MOWER MODELS
BH5000SP,
BH4000SP,
BH5000SPKV,
& BH5000SPM
SERIES 0**

Thank you for buying a BLACKHAWK product! Before operating your mower, read this manual carefully and pay particular attention to the IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS on Page 2. Remember that mowers and all power equipment can be dangerous if used improperly, and keep in mind that SAFETY requires careful use in accordance with the instructions and common sense!



535 MACON RD., McDONOUGH, GEORGIA 30253 Phone: (404) 954-2771

MANUAL No. TP2-6430 (Rev. 2, 5/93)

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: Failure to comply with the following instructions may result in serious injury to the operator or other persons. The owner of the mower must understand these instructions and, furthermore, must allow only persons who understand these instructions to operate mower. Each person operating the mower must be of sound mind and body and must not be under the influence of any substance which might impair vision, dexterity, or judgement. If you have any questions pertaining to your mower which your dealer cannot answer to your satisfaction, call or write to **BLACKHAWK**, 535 Macon Rd., McDonough, Georgia, 30253. Phone: (404) 954-2771

TRAINING

1. Read this Manual carefully and question your dealer if something is not clear. Should the dealer be unavailable or unable to answer to your satisfaction, write or call our Customer Service Department at the factory. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and proper use of the equipment.
2. DO NOT allow children in yard when mower is operated.
3. DO NOT allow pre-teenage children to operate mower.
4. Allow only responsible teenagers with mature judgement to operate mower and only under close supervision.
5. Keep the area clear of all persons, particularly small children, and pets.

PREPARATION

1. Never operate mower without proper guards, plates, safety switches, or other safety protective devices in place and properly connected. Inspect to determine that these safety devices are installed properly, are in good repair, and operate properly. If the condition or operation of these devices are questionable, they must be repaired or replaced before using the mower.
2. Thoroughly inspect the area where the mower is to be used and remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects. Also note the location of holes, stumps, and other possible hazards.
3. DO NOT operate mower when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear and long pants.
4. Fill gasoline tank before starting engine. Use approved gasoline container. DO NOT smoke near open gasoline container. DO NOT fill gasoline tank indoors or when engine is running. Allow engine to cool for at least ten minutes before refilling. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting engine. DO NOT run engine indoors.
5. Make sure that traction drive clutch control is disengaged before starting engine.
6. Never attempt to make a cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
7. When mowing over rough ground or in tall grass, mower must be set at highest cutting position.
8. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
9. Never operate mower in tall grass. Always be sure of your footing; keep a firm hold on the handle and walk; never run!
10. DO NOT operate mower without the grass bag, side chute or plug in place.

OPERATION

1. DO NOT change engine governor settings or overspeed engine.
2. DO NOT put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of discharge area while engine is running.
3. Stop engine when crossing gravel drives, walks, or roads, and under any conditions where thrown objects might be a hazard.
4. After striking a foreign object or if mower vibrates abnormally, stop the engine, disconnect and secure spark plug wire. Inspect the mower for any damage and repair the damage.
5. Stop blade and engine whenever you leave the operating position behind the handle for any reason, including clearing grass, emptying grass bag and making any adjustments, repairs, or inspections.
6. Before cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect and secure spark plug wire away from plug to prevent accidental starting.
7. Stop engine and wait until the blade comes to complete stop before removing grass bag and/or clearing grass.
8. Mow across slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise CAUTION when changing directions on slopes. DO NOT mow steep slopes or other areas where stability or traction is in doubt.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure mower is in safe operating condition.
2. Never store mower with gasoline in tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
3. To reduce fire hazard, keep mower free of grass, leaves or excessive grease.
4. Check grass bag assembly frequently for wear or deterioration. Replace with new bag if loose seams or tears are evident.
5. Have your mower inspected and serviced each year by an authorized Blackhawk dealer. Determine if any additional devices are available which might upgrade the safety of your mower.
6. Factory specified Blackhawk replacement parts must be used to assure adequate protection against injury.

FAMILIARIZATION

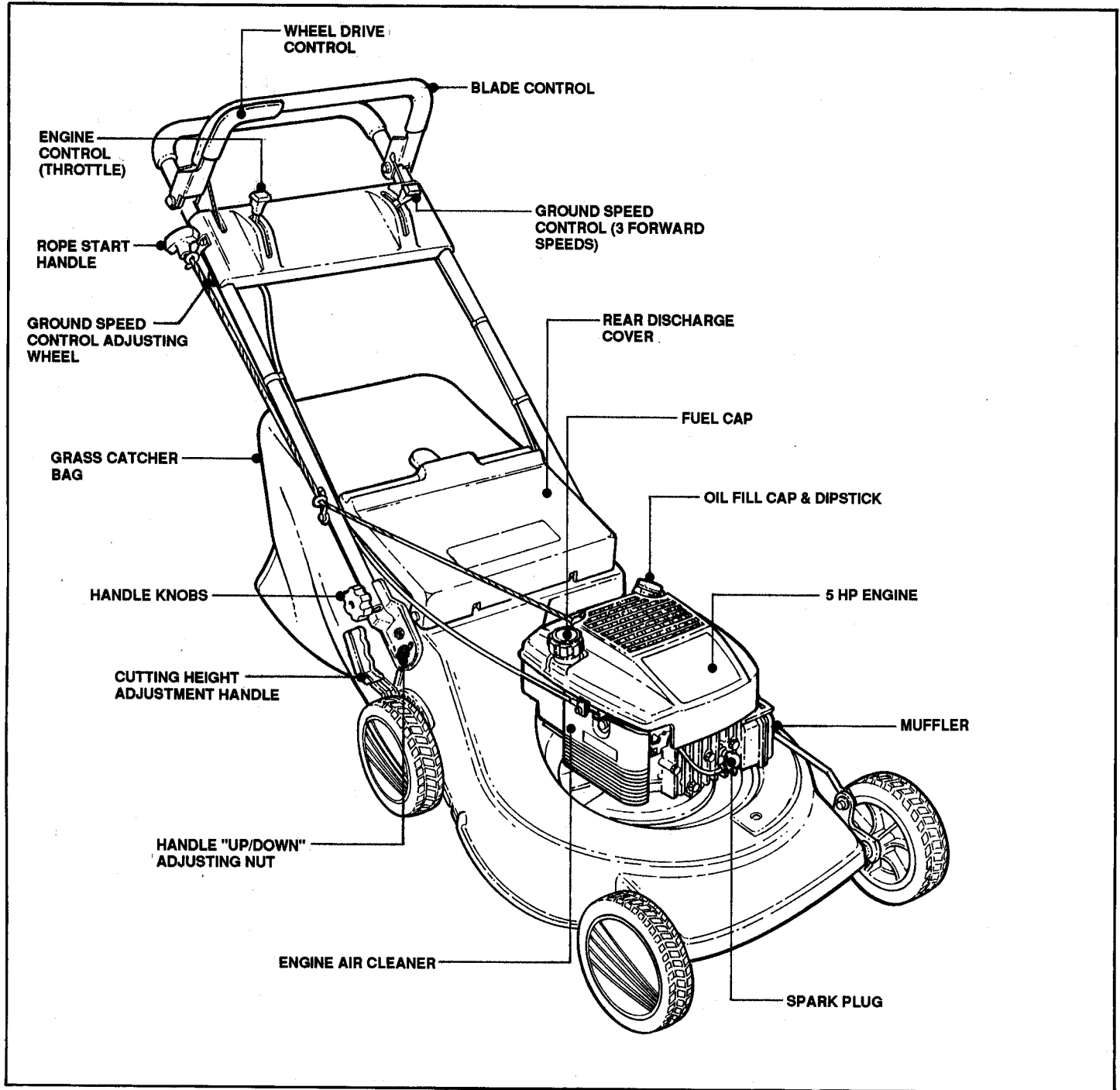


FIGURE 1

INTRODUCTION

This manual has been prepared for the operator's of the BLACKHAWK Models BH5000SP, BH4000SP, BH5000SPKV, & BH5000SPM Series 0 REAR DISCHARGE, 21" CAST ALUMINUM DECK SELF-PROPELLED WALK BEHIND MOWERS. Its purpose, aside from recommending operating and routine service requirements, is to promote safety through the use of accepted operating practices. **READ, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW** the SAFETY PRECAUTIONS on Page 2 of this manual and all safety messages on the mower before operating the machine.

NOMENCLATURE

The nomenclature drawing above (Figure 1) shows the essential parts of the BLACKHAWK Models BH5000SP, BH4000SP, BH5000SPKV & BH5000SPM Series 0 SELF-PROPELLED WALK BEHIND MOWERS. It is recommended that all operator's of this equipment become thoroughly familiar with the controls, parts and operation of this machine before operating. Specific details involving the engine are found in the separate engine owner's manual. Study these manuals before operating and keep both handy for future reference.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE OPERATING

Be thoroughly familiar with all controls and how to use them before operating your mower. **Know beforehand how to STOP the engine, wheel drive and mower blade in preparation for possible emergencies.**

STOPPING

- **ENGINE: STOP ENGINE** by releasing the **BLADE CONTROL**. See Figure 2.

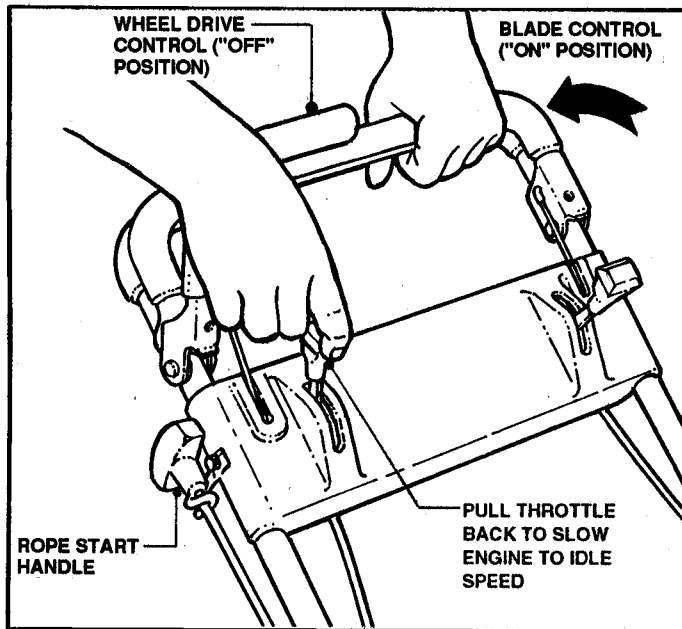


FIGURE 2

- **WHEEL DRIVE: STOP WHEEL DRIVE** by releasing **WHEEL DRIVE CONTROL**. Refer to Figure 3.
- **MOWER BLADE: STOP MOWER BLADE** by releasing the **BLADE CONTROL**. See Figure 3.

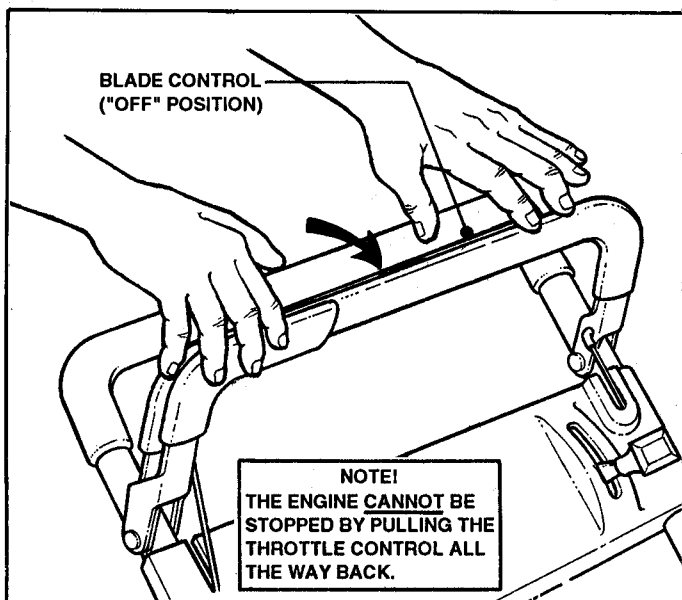


FIGURE 3

PRE-START CHECK LIST

Make the following checks and perform the service as required before each startup.

- **CLEAN EXTERIOR SURFACES** of cutting deck and engine of any accumulation of dirt, grass, oil, etc. Keep engine air intake screens and cooling fins clear at all times.
- **CHECK ENGINE OIL** and add oil as needed to bring level up to (but not over) the full mark. (Refer to engine manual for oil specifications).
- **CHECK BLADE CONTROL** to insure it works freely.
- **CHECK CUTTING HEIGHT**. Adjust as required.
- **CHECK GUARDS** and **GRASS BAG** to make sure they are in proper position and securely tightened.
- **CHECK FUEL LEVEL** in tank after pushing mower outdoors where fumes are safely dissipated.

STARTING/STOPPING ENGINE

1. Move **THROTTLE** to **CHOKE** position.
2. Hold **BLADE CONTROL** against handlebar with left hand.
3. Pull **ROPE START HANDLE** until engine starts. Refer to Figure 2.
4. After engine has warmed up, move **THROTTLE** to **"FAST"** position to begin mowing.
5. Stop engine by releasing **BLADE CONTROL**.

GROUND SPEED CONTROL

The mower has three (3) forward speeds. The **GROUND SPEED CONTROL** lever is moved to the front or rear to select the desired speed. See Figure 4.

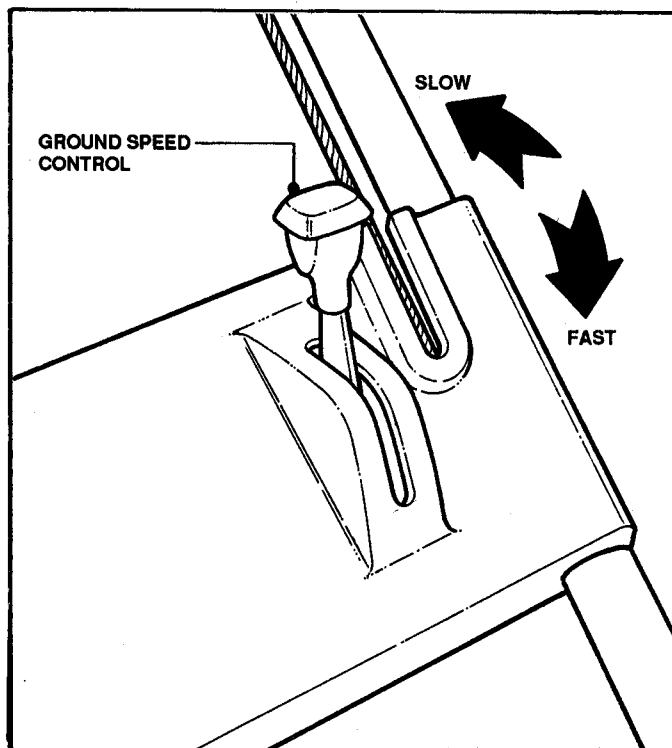


FIGURE 4

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

Stop engine and adjust *blade cutting height* as follows:

1. Pull the **ADJUSTING HANDLE** out towards the wheel and move deck to desired cutting height. Release handle to lock in position. See Figure 5.

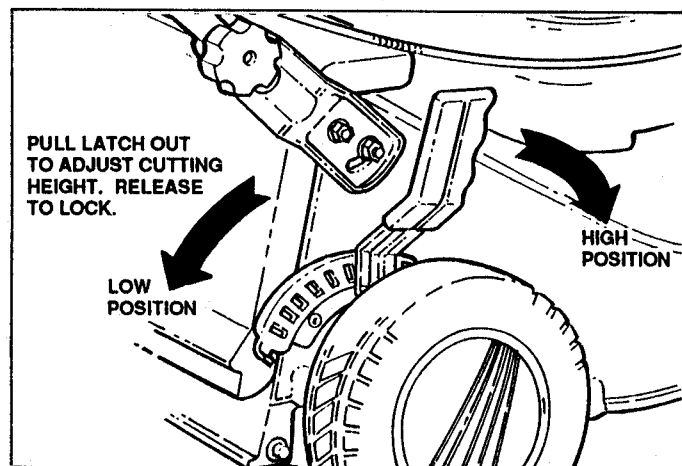
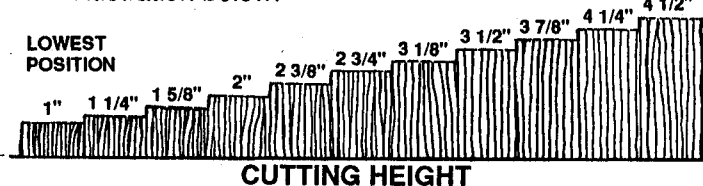


FIGURE 5

2. The mower has 11 cutting positions - from 1" to 4 1/2". Moving the handle to the rear lowers the cutting height; moving the handle forward raises the cutting height. See "CUTTING HEIGHT" illustration below.



HANDLE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

The bottom hole on each handlebar support is slotted to allow for handlebar height adjustment. See Figure 6.

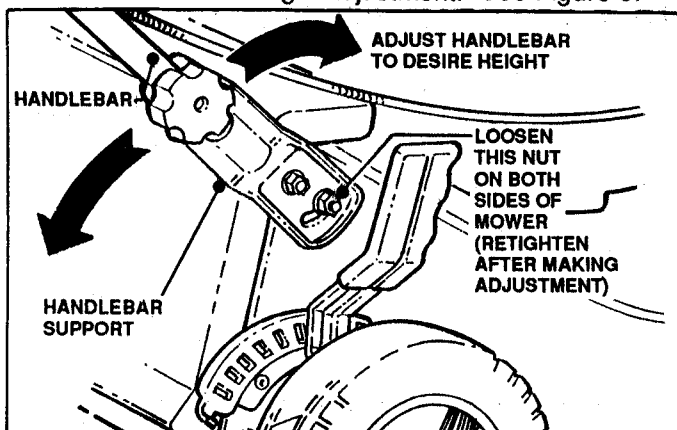


FIGURE 6

WHEEL DRIVE CONTROL ADJUSTMENT

During operation, if the mower will not power itself uphill or, while on level ground the mower drive seems to be slipping, then the mower drive control probably needs adjusting. Proceed as follows:

1. Push mower to level area.
2. Release Wheel Drive Control lever.
3. Continue to hold Blade Control against handlebar and allow engine to keep running.
4. Reach down with right hand and turn Drive Control Cable Adjusting Wheel counterclockwise two (2) complete turns. See Figure 7.

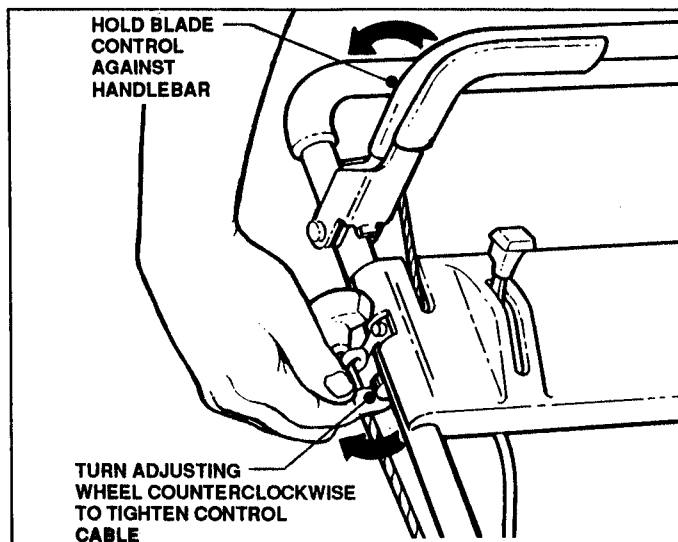


FIGURE 7

5. Press Wheel Drive Control lever against handlebar and allow mower to propel itself forward.
6. If forward motion of mower is still unsatisfactory, turn Adjusting Wheel another time.

CAUTION

Do not overstress drive control cable!
Turn Adjusting Wheel only as much as is required for mower to propel itself forward!

GRASS CATCHER

To install or remove the *Grass Catcher*, proceed as follows:

1. Stop engine.
2. Lift rear discharge cover.
3. Grasp handle and hold *Grass Catcher* up while inserting rod ends over tabs at rear of mower deck. See Figure 8.
4. Reverse procedure to remove *Grass Catcher*.

WARNING

Do not operate mower unless grass bag, side chute or plug is in place.

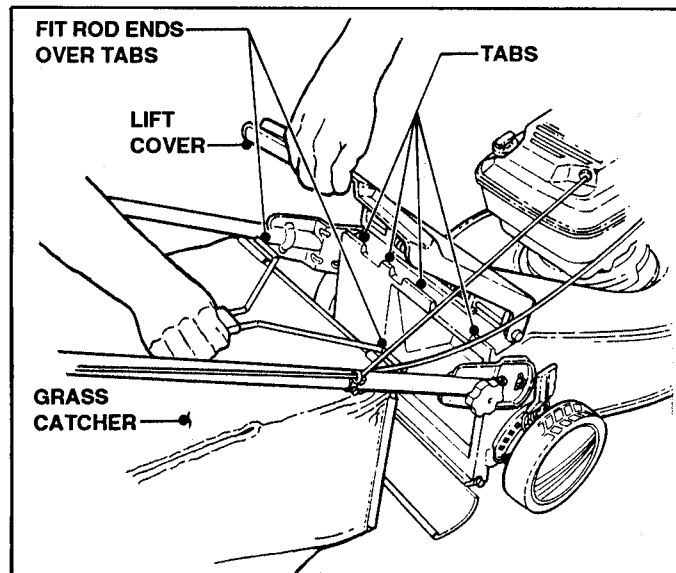


FIGURE 8

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS/SERVICE

MOWING PROCEDURE

1. Perform PRE-START CHECK LIST.
2. Move mower to flat spot in area to be mowed.
3. Observe surroundings. Make sure there are no bystanders, children or animals in, or close by, the area to be mowed. Pick up any toys, sticks, etc. that could be thrown out by the mower blade. Make note of any potential hazards.
4. Start mower engine.
5. Move THROTTLE to "FAST" position.
6. Move GROUND SPEED CONTROL to desired position.
7. Start forward motion by pulling back on WHEEL DRIVE CONTROL.
8. Begin mowing.

To retain the quality of your mower, use Genuine **BLACKHAWK** Replacement Parts only. Contact your local **BLACKHAWK** Dealer for parts and service assistance. For the correct part or information for your particular mower, always mention model and serial number. We recommend returning the mower to an authorized **BLACKHAWK** Dealer on a yearly basis for inspection and addition of any new devices which might upgrade the safety of your mower. For the nearest **BLACKHAWK** Dealer, check the yellow pages under the heading **LAWN MOWERS**. For engine parts and service, look for the engine manufacturer's dealers under the heading **ENGINES** - gasoline.



WARNING



Disconnect wire from spark plug before inspecting or servicing any part of the mower!

LUBRICATION SCHEDULE

● ENGINE (EVERY 25 HOURS)

1. Tilt mower up on its back wheels to remove oil drain plug from underneath. See Figure 9.

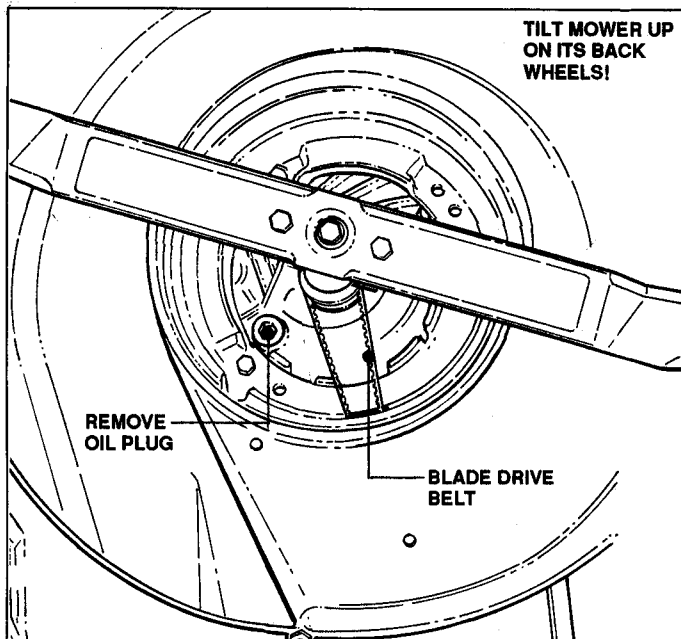


FIGURE 9

2. Lower mower back down onto its wheels and allow oil to drain completely.
3. Change oil every 25 hours or as specified in engine manual for specified weight, grade and amount of oil. Check oil level before each use.

● TRANSMISSION (EVERY 25 HOURS)

1. Remove DRIVE COVER by removing two screws from top of cover. See Figure 10.

NOTE

The Transmissions in the Series 0 **BLACKHAWK** Mowers DO NOT require lubrication or maintenance. However, they should be inspected on a yearly basis by a qualified **BLACKHAWK** Dealer to insure that they be maintained in top operating condition.

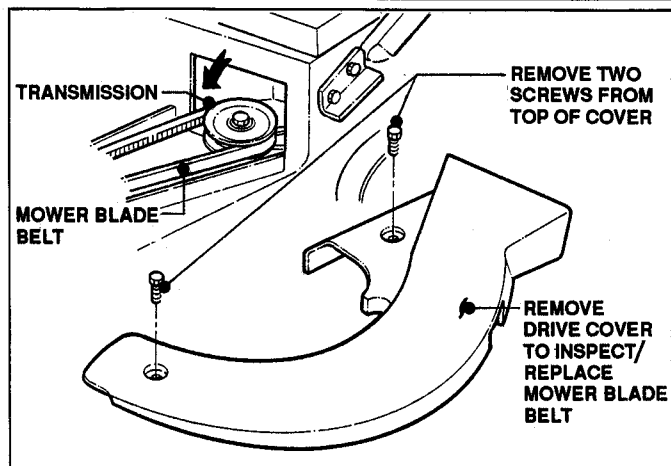


FIGURE 10

2. Inspect MOWER BLADE BELT for excessive wear, cracks and splits.
3. If required, replace belt as follows:
 - A. Disconnect spark plug.
 - B. Remove DRIVE COVER.
 - C. Remove old belt by tilting transmission forward and rolling belt off drive pulley.
 - D. Remove old belt from around blade pulley.
 - E. Install new belt in reverse order. Refer to Figures 9 and 10.

● WHEEL PIVOTS (EVERY 25 HOURS)

Lubricate arm pivot points between deck and arms on all wheels with 30 wt. motor oil. See Figure 11.

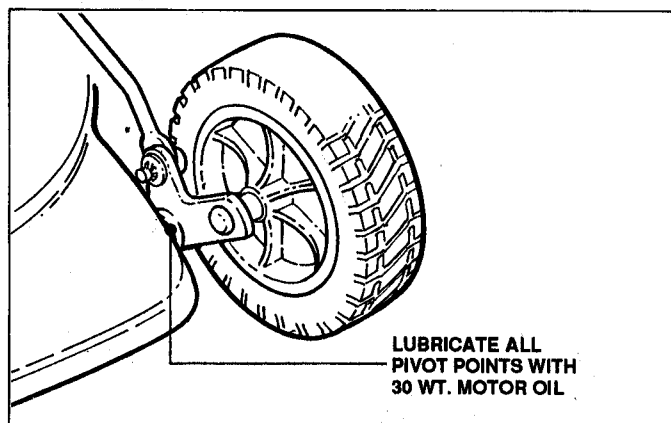


FIGURE 11

SERVICE

CUTTING BLADE SERVICE

1. Check at frequent intervals to make sure the Blade is securely tightened and that it is in good condition.
2. Replace Blade if badly chipped, bent, out of balance, or as soon as notch starts wearing in the tip between the flat surface and upturned lift as shown in Figure 12. This type wear pattern occurs more rapidly under sandy soil conditions.

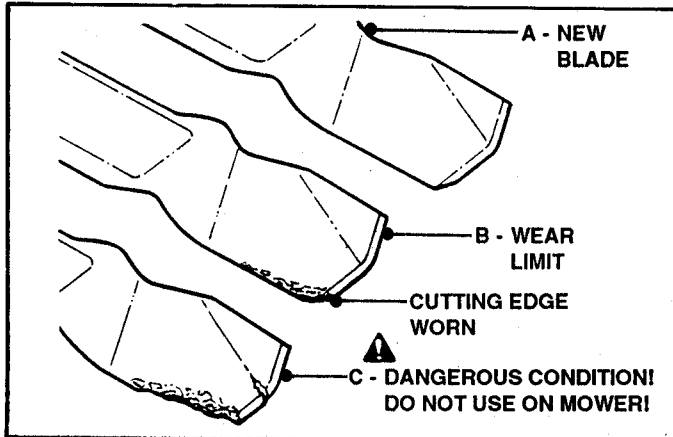


FIGURE 12

⚠ DANGER ⚠

Never operate the mower with blade worn to the extent shown in View C as the tip could fly off, causing personal injury or property damage.

3. Sharpen Blade when the cutting edges become dull if the Blade is in otherwise good condition. When dull, the grass cut ends will be ragged and usually turn brown soon after mowing. For best results, remove the Blade and sharpen the underside on a grinding wheel at an angle of 22 to 28 degrees. The cutting surface should extend in about 2 1/2" from the tips. Check the Blade after sharpening to determine that it is still balanced. It will cause excessive vibrations if unbalanced. See Figure 13.

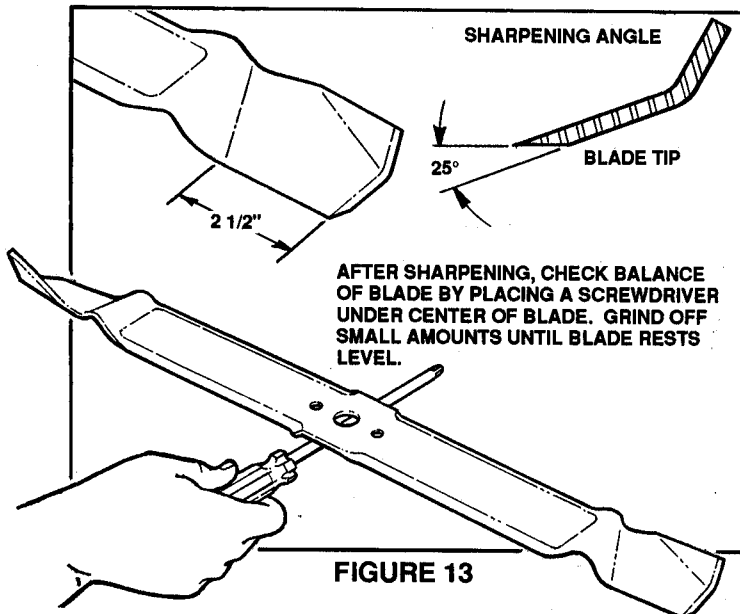


FIGURE 13

4. Reinstall sharpened blade and components as shown in Figure 14.

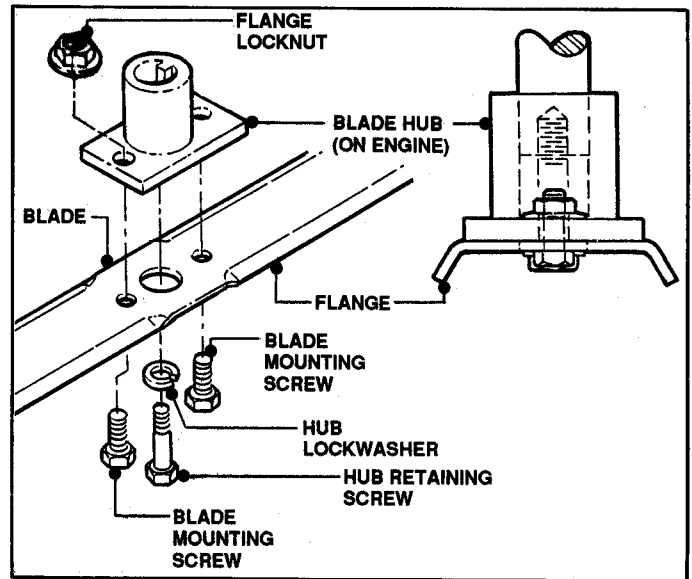


FIGURE 14

5. Tighten the special hub retaining capscrew to 30 FOOT POUNDS TORQUE.

⚠ CAUTION ⚠

Install Blade EXACTLY as shown in Figure 14. Flanges on Blade face towards the ground.

STORAGE PROCEDURE

Refer to the engine manual for directions regarding engine storage preparations.

Prepare the mower for "end of season" storage as follows:

1. Remove fuel from fuel tank. Run engine until carburetor bowl is empty.

⚠ CAUTION ⚠

Disconnect the Spark Plug Wire BEFORE any other preparations are made!

2. Tape all openings closed to prevent spraying water into exhaust or air intakes during washing.
3. Stand the mower on its rear wheels and thoroughly clean the underside of the deck. Scrape away any accumulation of grass with a putty knife and/or wire brush, then use a hose to wash down the underside of deck and allow to dry. Clean all external surfaces of mower and allow to dry.
4. Lubricate all exposed metal with a light coating of oil to prevent corrosion.
5. Drain oil and refill with new oil.
6. Change air filter.
7. If so equipped, empty the Grass Bag to prevent decay of debris and formation of mold while in storage. The Grass Bag may be washed in detergent, but allow it to dry thoroughly.
8. The handlebar may be tilted forward AFTER loosening both KNOBS. The Grass Bag does not have to be removed. See Figure 15.

SERVICE

9. Store the mower in a shed or other dry area, protected from weather.
10. To reposition handlebar for mowing, fold handle back into mowing position and tighten knobs. Check cables for any kinks or bends. Refer to Figure 12.

Safety Instructions & Operator's Manual for



535 MACON RD., McDONOUGH, GEORGIA 30253 Phone: (404) 954-2771

21" CAST ALUMINUM REAR DISCHARGE SELF-PROPELLED WALK BEHIND MOWER MODELS BH5000SP, BH4000SP, BH5000SPKV, & BH5000SPM, SERIES 0

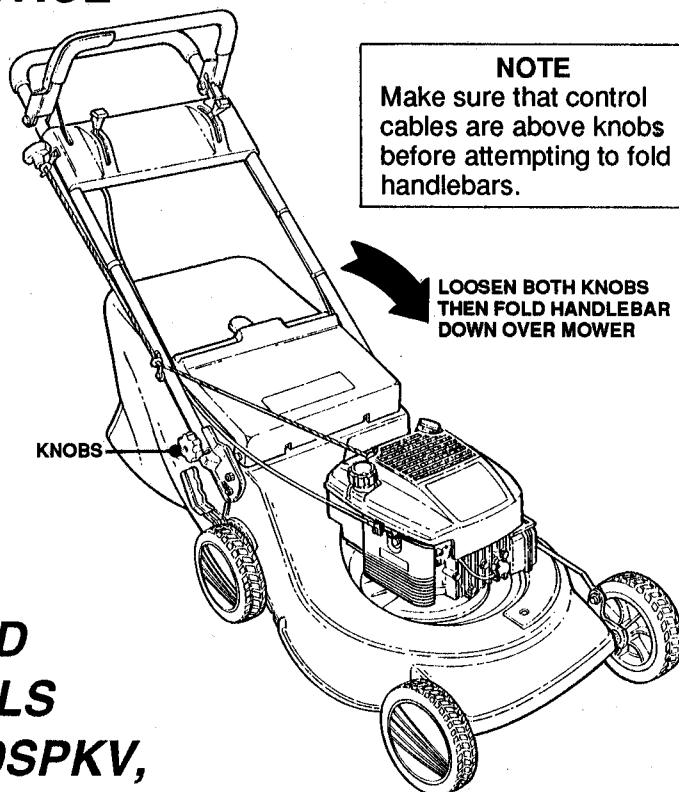


FIGURE 15

2 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

For two (2) years from purchase date for the original purchaser's residential, non-commercial use, BLACKHAWK, through any BLACKHAWK dealer will replace, free of charge, any part or parts found upon examination by the factory at McDonough, Georgia, to be defective in material or workmanship or both.

For ninety (90) days from purchase date for the original purchaser's commercial, rental, or other non-residential use, BLACKHAWK, through any BLACKHAWK dealer will replace, free of charge, any part or parts found upon examination by the factory at McDonough, Georgia, to be defective in material or workmanship or both.

All transportation costs incurred by the purchaser in submitting material to a BLACKHAWK dealer for replacement under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser.

This warranty does not apply to engines and their components, or Transaxles, as these items are warranted separately by their manufacturers. This warranty does not apply to parts that have been damaged by accident, alteration, abuse, improper lubrication, normal wear, or other cause beyond our control.

There is no other express warranty.

Implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to two (2) years from purchase date for the original purchaser's residential, non-commercial use [ninety (90) days from purchase for the original purchaser's commercial, rental or other non-residential use], and to the extent permitted by law, any and all implied warranties are excluded. This is the exclusive remedy. Liabilities for consequential damages, under any and all warranties are excluded.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

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

WARNING: THE USE OF REPLACEMENT PARTS OTHER THAN GENUINE BLACKHAWK PARTS MAY IMPAIR THE SAFETY OF BLACKHAWK PRODUCTS AND WILL VOID ANY LIABILITY AND WARRANTY BY BLACKHAWK ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF SUCH PARTS.

IMPORTANT: Please fill out the attached BLACKHAWK Product Registration Card immediately and mail to: BLACKHAWK, 535 Macon Rd., McDONOUGH, GEORGIA 30253