

SOP - Mower - Cylinder Walk Behind

DO NOT use this plant* or complete this task unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator

This SOP may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant/work. Site and task may change required PPE.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Minimum P2 face mask or respirator must be worn when airborne dust or fumes are created



Hearing protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



High visibility clothing must worn



Protective body clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- Entanglement**
Entanglement in moving parts
- Shearing**
Body parts sheared between items of plant
- Slip, Trips, Falls**
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces
- Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**
Injury from sharp or flying object
Injury from work pieces being ejected
Injury from unexpected movement of plant
Injury from contact with moving parts
- Exposure to Dust/Fumes**
Exposure to Dust
Exposure to other emissions released by the plant
- Explosion**
Explosion of gases, vapours or liquids
- Manual Task Injury**
Manual task injury from repetitive movements
- Struck by Moving Object**
Struck by moving object due to unexpected movement of plant
- Other**
Contact with hot or cold parts of plants
Hearing damage from excessive noise
Injury due to operating of plant in unsuitable weather conditions
Injury due to plant malfunction or misuse

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete visual plant check before operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Ensure that guards are fitted, secured and functional in accordance with manufacturers guidelines
- ✓ Before commencing mowing ensure that all obstructions (stones, bottles, wires & rocks) or other items that could become a projectile are removed from the area

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ Before starting engine, disengage drive to the cutting cylinder and the rear drive roller and engage the parking brake
- ✓ Watch for ejected material. Ensure no person or animal is endangered when operating plant
- ✓ Always watch for bystanders whilst operating plant
- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area
- ✓ Avoid mowing in wet conditions due to lack of traction

- ✓ Always disengage drive to the cylinder before travelling over any surface other than grass
- ✓ Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down. Exercise extreme caution, when changing direction on slopes
- ✓ Use caution when reversing, pulling or moving mower towards you
- ✓ If plant should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check for the cause immediately. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble
- ✓ Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill and disconnect the sparkplug wire.
- ✓ Exercise extreme care when refuelling to avoid spilling onto a hot motor or exhaust

ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ Remove the spark plug lead before removing any foreign material from in and around engine catcher parts
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

DO NOT

- ✘ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach an Out of Service tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✘ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✘ Do not stand in front of plant when starting the engine or when the machine is running
- ✘ Do not over reach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. This enables better control of mower in unexpected situations
- ✘ Do not ride on mower or carry passengers
- ✘ Do not place feet or hands on or near blades while the engine is running
- ✘ Do not operate plant on wet grass. Always be sure of your footing
- ✘ Do not touch the engine muffler during or after operation of plant. It is extremely hot and can cause severe burns
- ✘ Do not wear loose jewellery
- ✘ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

***Plant in this SOP refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.**