

SOP - Mower - 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



Foot protection must be worn



Hearing protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn



High visibility clothing must worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- ❗ Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**
 - Injury from sharp or flying object
 - Injury from contact with moving parts
- ❗ Manual Task Injury**
 - Manual task injury from repetitive movements
- ❗ 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
- ❗ Slips, Trips, Falls**
 - Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
 - Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces
- ❗ Entanglement**
 - Entanglement in moving parts
- ❗ Exposure to Dust/Fumes**
 - Exposure to Dust
 - Exposure to other emissions released by the plant

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Ensure that guards are fitted, secured and functional in accordance with manufacturers guidelines
- ✓ Ensure mower is clean
- ✓ Check blades for operational suitability
- ✓ Ensure cutting blades are sharp, secure in good position. Damaged blades can cause a dangerous imbalance
- ✓ Check for any loose, broken, missing or damaged parts. Replace as needed
- ✓ Before commencing mowing ensure that all obstructions (stones, bottles, wires & rocks) are removed from the area
- ✓ Complete visual inspection before operation

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Maintain a proper balance and secure footing
- ✓ Operate at a speed slow enough to keep control over unexpected hazards
- ✓ Mow in a forward direction

- ✓ Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down. Exercise extreme caution, when changing direction on slopes
- ✓ Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill and disconnect the sparkplug wire
- ✓ Exercise extreme care when refuelling to avoid spilling on hot motor or exhaust

ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Turn off fuel supply when work is completed
- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Remove the spark plug lead before removing any foreign material from in and around engine catcher parts
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ 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 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 mow on excessively steep slopes
- ✗ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

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