

Common mistakes when renting a tractor

- Fully read manual before operating or calling.
- With all of the safety features on the tractors for **starting** we have seen many people call in because they cannot get the tractor started;
 - Must be sitting in the seat to actuate the seat switch.
 - Drive speed range selector must be in absolute neutral.
 - Both front and rear PTO must be in neutral.
 - Parking brake must be on.
 - Forward/reverse drive pedal must be in absolute neutral.
- If the tractor still will not start, we have observed that when using either a brush hog or tiller that debris will effect the neutral switch for the forward/reverse pedal. The switch is located below the right foot plate, just behind the pivot for the forward/reverse pedal.
- The **bucket and loader** on these tractors are engineered for digging and moving loose material only. Not virgin ground! Because of the weight of the tractor what people try and do to dig into virgin ground is increase the speed of the tractor to try and dig into the ground. What ends up happening is either the loader cylinder rods will bend, or the loader bracket mounting bolts snap. Replacement cost for a cylinder is approximately \$325.00. Because of where the loader bracket mounting bolts are, and the difficulty to get at them. It turns out to be about a two to three day job and lost rental, this can be very costly.
- **Hydrostatic drive** is much less troublesome than a clutched transmission from an operator's perspective. There are some guidelines to properly use a hydrostatic drive as to not to damage the pump. Never force the tractor when driving or operating with an attachment, as so the pump to start slipping or making a "whirring" sound. Shift to a lower speed range. Let the tractor completely stop before reversing directions. There are three speeds to select from.

- Low - this is to be used when using the tiller attachment and possibly brush hog depending upon work load for the brush hog.
- Medium - use this for the blade, york rake, slit seeder and possibly the brush hog. Do not use the tiller in this speed range.
- High - this is strictly for transporting only, not to be used with any attachments.
- Engine overheating. This engine is equipped with a 3 cylinder diesel engine. Small diesel engines are susceptible to overheating. If you suspect the engine has been overheated, call General Rental Center of Monticello as to what to do for proper care instructions.
 - Ways to avoid this is always pay attention to the temperature gauge.
 - Overworking the tractor. Please use common sense as to not overwork the tractor.
 - We have seen an engine overheat within a half hour running when renting a **tiller**. This was because the engine air cleaner had become blocked with dust and the engine was starved for air. Till with the engine upwind from the tiller, this will reduce the amount of dust that will get into the air cleaner.
 - Using the **brush hog**. Because of all the small airborne debris it will block the engine radiator pre-filter. Therefore, the radiator will not receive proper airflow to keep the engine cooled. The pre-filter is a screen in front of the radiator. This will need to be cleaned depending upon work load.