

General Safety Instructions

Not intended to be a complete owner's manual

This manual will assist you in the safe operation and proper maintenance of your BlueBird equipment. Read it thoroughly before attempting to operate the machine. Call your dealer or BlueBird if additional information is required.

This equipment should not be modified without the manufacturer's prior written authorization. Doing so may not only affect the equipment's performance and durability, but also create safety hazards for the operator and the surroundings. Warranty will be voided if changes are made to the equipment without the manufacturer's prior written authorization.

- DO NOT operate or perform maintenance on this machine without first reading the entire owner's manual.
- DO NOT operate on hills exceeding 35% grade. It is recommended for best uniformity that hills be power raked across the slope, not up and down the slope. DO NOT leave the unit sitting on a slope unattended. It has no parking brake.
- DO NOT tear down the engine, as this may void the Engine Manufacturer's Warranty. Contact your nearest engine manufacturer's authorized servicing dealer for engine service and warranty questions. Follow all engine manufacturer's maintenance instructions. Should any malfunction occur with the engine during the warranty period, take to an Authorized Service Dealer.
- DO NOT run engine while servicing.
- DO NOT use on any surface other than grass.
- DO NOT place hands or feet near moving or rotating parts.
- DO NOT run engine in an unventilated space.
- DO NOT smoke or allow open flame or sparks near unit and always stop the engine when fueling.
- DO NOT remove guards while operating.
- DO NOT modify this equipment.
- DO NOT use this equipment for purposes other than lawn dethatching/seeding/verticutting.
- CAUTION! Inspect lawn and remove any rocks, wire, string and other objects that might present a hazard before starting.
- CAUTION! Identify and mark all ground objects to be avoided, such as sprinkler heads, stakes, water valves, clothesline anchors, etc.
- CAUTION! Use machine for grass lawns only.
- CAUTION! Keep children away from equipment.
- CAUTION! Adopt safe lifting and moving techniques when loading/unloading equipment.
- CAUTION! Make sure all safety decals are in place.
- CAUTION! BlueBird parts have been designed and specified to meet commercial operating standards for strength and durability. For reliability and preservation of design safety standards, replacements should only be made with genuine BlueBird parts or material of equivalent type and strength.
- CAUTION! Any modifications or additions to this equipment without written authorization from the manufacturer will void all manufacturer's warranties.
- CAUTION! To turn and maneuver your machine, bear down on the handle and pivot on the rear wheels.
- CAUTION! To transport your Comber/Seeder:
 - Shut off engine and allow engine to cool for 2 minutes.
 - Close folding handle if unit is furnished with one.
 - It is recommended that two people lift machine.
 - Secure in place during transport.

Using Your New Comber/Seeder

Before You Start

- Mow the lawn to its normal cut height.
- Allow lawn to dry. Wet conditions may cause increased damage to healthy grass.
- Set rake depth so that blades just touch on a flat surface like a sidewalk or driveway.
- Lawns with deep thatch exceeding $\frac{3}{4}$ " may be best dethatched in two treatments (spring and fall) to avoid major shock to an older lawn.

Starting

- To engage clutch in heavy thatch, bear down on the handle to slightly raise the front wheels. Engage the clutch and slowly lower the unit into the turf.
- Do a small test area at a slow walking pace.
- If the engine RPM drops excessively, the depth setting is too low.
- If the unit pulls forward and bounces roughly, the depth setting is too low.

Finishing

- Remove all extracted thatch from the grass and compost/dispose of properly.
- Other procedures to improve your lawn may include aeration and fertilization.

