



MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Vol. 1 No. 1

Have you read the manual ?



Sad to say many individuals (me included) often purchase an expensive item and in our enthusiasm to start using the new toy we fail to read the manual. This can at times prove to be a BIG mistake leading to operator frustration and unnecessary maintenance expenses.

The MGG and Briggs & Stratton manuals contain important information for the operation and care of your equipment to ensure a long trouble free life.

Although we encourage you to read the whole of the manuals we would like to draw your attention to a few KEY parts of the manuals to ensure you get the best from your MGG Ride-on Mower

THE ENGINE

The B&S Manual details what oil to use and when to change the oil. Make sure you use an appropriate grade of oil AND that you change

the oil after the first FIVE hours of use ! (see pages 4 and 5)

Another tip is to give regular attention to the engine air cleaner.

As air breathers we personally benefit from clean air..... engines are no different. A plentiful supply of pollution free air is necessary for good engine performance and health.

In an often dry and dusty environment filters quickly clog causing poor performance and possibly even some damage from inadequate air supply.

So to ensure a plentiful supply of clean air the engine air cleaner will need regular attention.

Please check out the details on page 4 of your B&S Manual and keep that filter CLEAN.

THE MOWER

Are you lubing the appropriate parts and adjusting the belts?

Your MGG manual shows a number of places that need regular lubrication. Page 28 details these lube points and page 29 has a valuable chart indicating the intervals for various maintenance checks.

While we want some parts of the mower to be lubed for friction free operation the drive belts actually rely on friction to provide power to the wheels & blades. We **don't** want belts to slip !

A slipping belt will wear very quickly and if left without adjustment will soon require replacing. Therefore belt tension needs checking and adjusting regularly (or if any slippage occurs). See manual pages 32 and 33 (figures 48-51) for adjustment details.

ELECTRICITY

An often overlooked item is the battery !! Have you checked yours recently? Every 2 to 3 months check the water in your battery and ONLY use distilled water when topping-up the battery. (not applicable for models with a sealed battery) Tap water contains a variety of chemicals, metals and minerals which are battery killers. If the mower is to be left unused for an extended period disconnect and remove the battery and give a maintenance charge every 8 to 10 weeks to prevent the battery from premature failure from sulphate accumulation. Batteries are like people...they benefit from regular exercise !

BITS TOUCHING GRASS

Tyres... For stability when shipping machines MGG inflates tyres to 30psi. That's too much for operational use. Reduce the pressure to 15psi and you will get better traction AND a softer ride.

Blades....Keep them SHARP ! Yea, we know, they are hidden under the bottom of the machine but you can drive the mower up onto ramps or using a chain block, lift the front of the tractor to reveal the underside and you can easily remove the blades to carefully sharpen them with a file or grinder. **Note that the right-hand blade has a reverse thread!** Sharp blades CUT the grass rather than beating the grass to death and blades that actually cut the grass assist the blade exhaust action in moving the grass to the catcher.

Talking about the catcher. Did you realise that the grass catcher needs to "breathe" to work properly. Over time grass particles will clog the bags "pores" and a clogged grass bag will slow the airflow from the blades and not allow sufficient airflow for the grass discharge from the blades to work correctly.

Regularly remove and clean the catcher by pressure washing or vacuuming and the possibility of clogging will be dramatically reduced.



We hope you have found this "MGG Maintenance Matters" of value.

HAPPY MOWING EVERYBODY !!