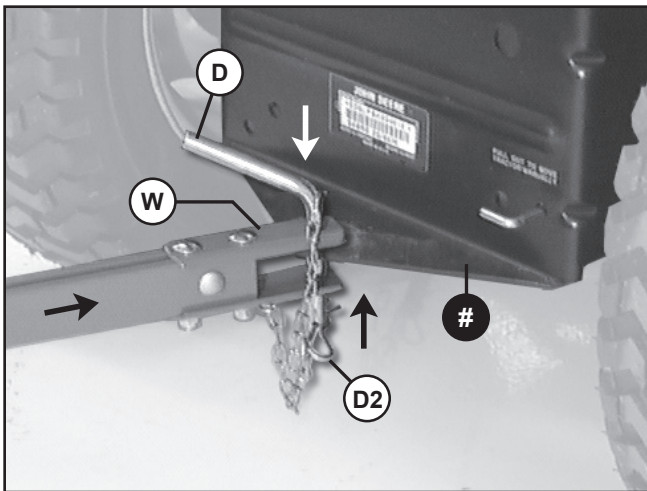


# Installing / Removing

## Installing

1. Park tractor safely.  
(See *Parking Safely in the SAFETY section.*)
2. Place the attachment behind the tractor.



3. Place clevis (W) onto tractor hitch plate (#). Align the hitch pin holes.
4. Install hitch pin (D) through holes in clevis (W) & hitch plate (#).
5. Secure spring locking pin (D2) through hole in hitch pin (D).

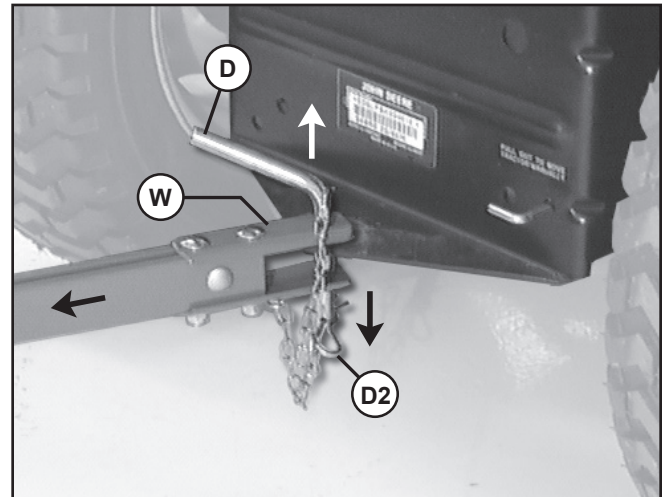
## Removing

1. Park tractor safely.  
(See *Parking Safely in the SAFETY section.*)



**CAUTION: Avoid Injury!** Do not attempt to disconnect attachment from tractor with weight or spreading material remaining in the unit. Attachment could become unstable causing injury.

2. Remove all weight and/or material from attachment.



3. Remove spring locking pin (D2).
4. Remove hitch pin (D).
5. Move attachment off tractor hitch plate.
6. Install hitch pin (D) and spring locking pin (D2) to clevis (W) for storage.

# Operation

## When to Use the Spike Aerator

The spike aerator will actively penetrate soil, allowing much needed air, water and nutrients to enter the lawn. It will also relieve soil compaction.

A moderate soil moisture content is important to proper operation of the spiker aerator. Penetration will not occur in extremely dry soil, and very wet conditions will cause the unit to “bog down,” possibly causing lawn damage.

Use the spike aerator only on an established lawn, never on newly laid sod. The spike aerator should not be used when lawn conditions are too wet or too dry.

**TO DETERMINE CONDITION:** Dig a small amount of your soil about 76 mm (3 in.) deep.

**Too Dry:** If soil appears powdery and brittle, it is too dry. Wait until a later date, after a rainfall.

*If soil is too dry, the aerator tines will not penetrate properly.*

**Too Wet:** If soil appears damp, attempt to roll a small amount into a ball in the palm of your hand. If it forms a ball, the soil is too wet. Ideally, the soil should fall apart. Wait until the soil is more dry.

*If the soil is too wet, the aerator tines will stop up and your tractor could lose traction and damage the lawn.*

## Selecting the Operating Positions



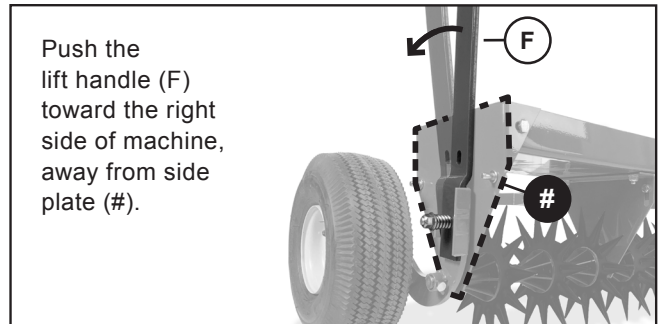
**CAUTION: Avoid Injury!** Do not operate lift handle unless attachment is installed to tractor.

Lift handle is under tension when using ballast in weight tray. *Use caution when moving handle into different positions.*

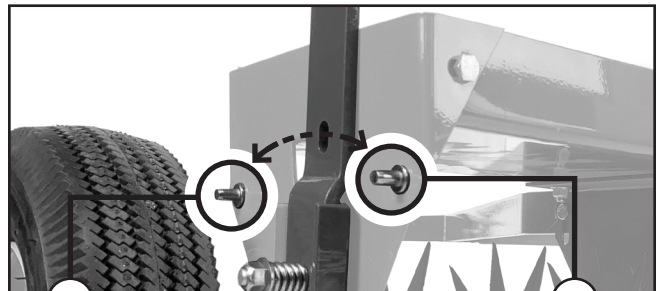
Keep hands and feet away from tines when lowering to the ground.

1. Park tractor safely.  
(See *Parking Safely in the SAFETY section*).
2. Attach spike aerator to tractor.

3. Push the lift handle (F) toward the right side of machine, away from side plate (#).



4. Move handle forward or rearward to engage lock pin into desired position:



1

### Transport

Use rear lock pin to raise tines so unit can be towed without tines contacting the ground.

2

### Operate

Use front lock pin to lower tines to ground for operation.

# Operation

## Using the Weight Tray



### CAUTION: Avoid Injury!

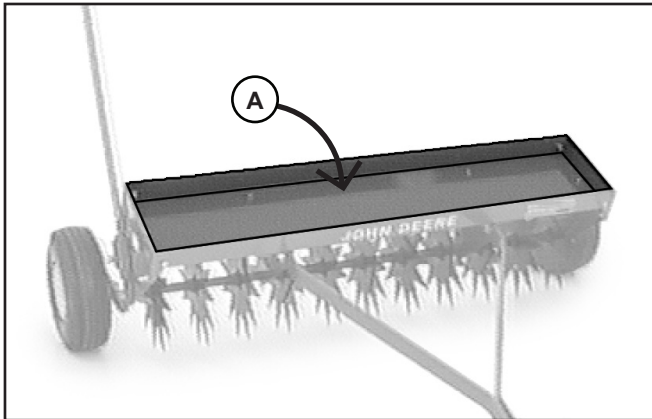
Never add weight to tray unless the attachment is installed to tractor.

### CAUTION: Avoid Damage!

Never exceed the weight tray capacity of 45 kg (100 lb)



1. Install spike aerator to tractor.
2. Place lift handle in rear hole for transport position.



3. Add sand bags, concrete blocks, or other type of weight to weight tray (A). Do not exceed 45 kg (100 lbs) of weight. Distribute weight evenly across tray to ensure equal pressure on tines.
4. If necessary, secure weight in tray using straps.

## Operating Spike Aerator



### CAUTION: Avoid Injury!

Keep hands and feet away from all moving parts. Never carry riders.

**IMPORTANT: Avoid Damage!** Never exceed the weight tray capacity of 45 kg (100 lb).

Engage wheels to transport position when crossing concrete or asphalt surfaces.

Always back carefully in a straight line to avoid jackknifing the attachment.

Periodically remove debris build up that can restrict or damage the tines.

1. Park tractor safely.  
(See *Parking Safely* in the **SAFETY** section).
2. Install spike aerator to tractor.
3. Place unit in transport position.
4. Add recommended weight to weight tray.
5. Drive to work area.
6. Park tractor safely.
7. Place unit in operating position.
8. Start machine.
9. Tow spike aerator at 5 to 8 km/hr (3 to 5 mph) for safe and effective operation.
10. Check for uniform hole pattern and depth. Park tractor safely before making any adjustments.

# Maintenance / Service

## Checking the Tine Operation

Operation of the tines will vary with soil type, condition, and amount of weight in weight tray. Make sure soil conditions are appropriate for operation. Do not exceed the weight tray capacity to try and improve penetration in overly dry conditions.

- Test operation of the tines by driving the tractor forward about 3m (10 ft). Observe the operation. Check for uniform hole pattern and depth.
- Add, remove, or distribute the weight better to obtain proper results.
- Periodically, check the tines. Remove any debris build up that might restrict or cause damage to the tines.

## Service



### **CAUTION: Avoid Injury!**

Aerator tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Shield sharp parts during service work.

- To prevent or eliminate rust on tines, apply a light oil on them after each use.
- For rust appearing on any part of your attachment, sand lightly and coat with enamel.
- Apply a drop of lubricating oil to each nylon / line bearing assembly, axles and working area of the plugging spoons before use.
- Periodically check the aerating tines. Remove any debris that might build up and restrict their action.
- Periodically check tightness of all fasteners.
- Be sure to remove all unused fertilizers from hopper immediately after use and clean with water to prevent corrosion.

## Checking Tractor Ground Speed

*Check the ground speed in an open area.*

- Measure a test area that is 30.5 m (100 ft) in length.
- Operate the tractor at wide open throttle. Operate tractor at a low speed and drive the tractor to test distance. Record the time needed to travel that distance.
- Make three passes, recording the time for each pass. The average time should be 14 to 23 seconds to achieve the recommended operating speed range:
  - At 4.8 km/h (3 mph), the average time traveling the test distance should be 23 seconds.
  - At 8 km/h (5 mph), the average time traveling the test distance should be 14 seconds.
- Adjust speed accordingly to achieve the recommended speed range.

# Storage

## Storing the Attachment



**CAUTION: Avoid Injury!**

Tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Store attachments so sharp points are shielded from contact.

1. Park tractor safely.  
*(See Parking Safely in the SAFETY section).*
2. Remove all weight and material from attachment.
3. Remove attachment from tractor.
4. Wash attachment thoroughly.  
*Allow to dry completely.*
5. Replace all worn, damaged, or missing parts.
6. Sand any rusted areas lightly and paint with enamel.
7. Lubricate moving parts.
8. Apply a light coverage of oil to all tines to prevent rust.
9. Reduce air pressure in tires.
10. Store attachment in a dry area with tines against wall or floor to avoid accidental contact.
11. Block up attachment off the ground to prevent contact with moisture and take weight of the tires.
12. Place a waterproof cover over the attachment if it must be stored outside.

## Removing the Attachment from Storage



**CAUTION: Avoid Injury!**

Tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Store attachments so sharp points are shielded from contact.

1. Wash the attachment if necessary.  
*Allow to dry completely.*
2. Inspect tires for deterioration.
3. Inflate tires to proper pressure.
4. Make sure all parts are in place and hardware is secure.

# Quality

## John Deere Quality Continues with Quality Service

John Deere provides a process to handle your questions or problems, should they arise, to ensure that product quality continues with quality parts and service support.

**Follow the steps below to get answers to any questions you may have about your product.**

1. Refer to your attachment and machine operator manuals.
2. In North America or Canada, call Brinly-Hardy Co. Customer Service at 1-866-218-8622 and provide product serial number (if available) and model number.

### Notes:

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This product was manufactured by Brinly-Hardy Co., a John Deere Licensee, located at 3230 Industrial Pkwy, Jeffersonville, IN 47130. If you have any questions or concerns with the assembly, installation or operation of this attachment see your local John Deere Dealer or call Brinly-Hardy Co. at 866-218-8622 for assistance.

