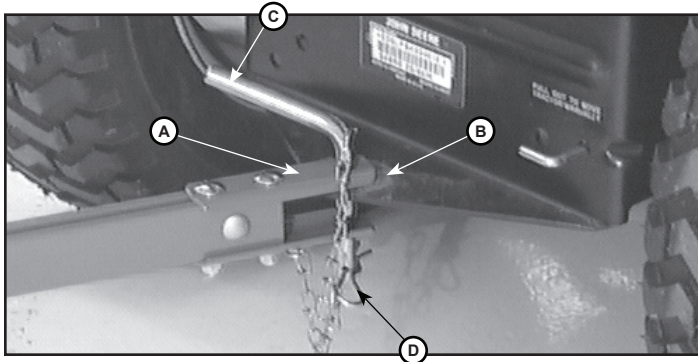


Installing and Operation

Installing Tow-Behind Attachment

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



3. Place clevis (A) onto tractor hitch plate (B). Align the hitch pin holes.
4. Install hitch pin (C) through holes in clevis and hitch plate.
5. Secure spring locking pin (D) through hole in hitch pin.

Step 2-A. 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. Install thatcherator to tractor.

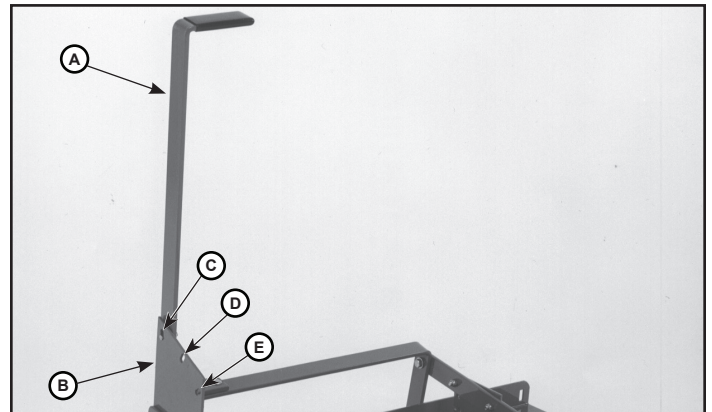
Step 1. When to Use the Thatcherator

The best times to dethatch are spring and fall. Grass should be less than 76 mm (3 in.) high for proper tine action.

Spring dethatching gives the grass a chance to grow strong before summer takes its toll, while a fall treatment will prevent pests from finding a fertile breeding ground in your lawn.

Use John Deere's tow-behind thatcherator to pull up excess thatch.

Step 2-B. Selecting the Operating Positions



3. Push lift handle (A) toward left side of machine, away from lift lock plate (B).
4. Move handle forward or rearward to engage lock pin into desired position:
 - TRANSPORT (C) - Use top hole to raise tines so unit can be towed without tine contracting the ground.
 - DETHATCH (D) - Use center hole for general dethatching.
 - SCARIFY (E) - Use bottom hole to scarify a seed bed.

Operation

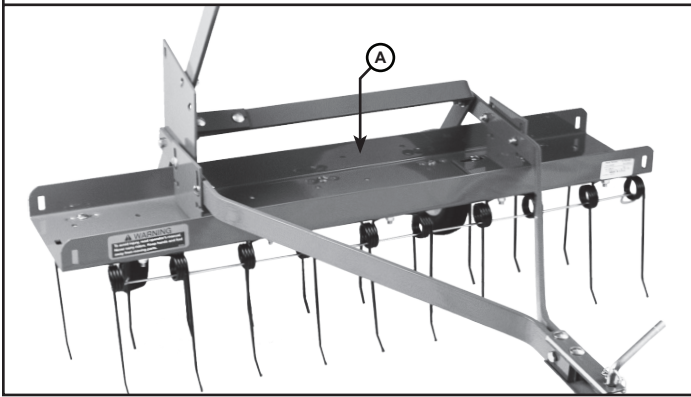
Step 3-A. Using the Weight Tray



CAUTION: Avoid injury! Never add weight to tray unless attachment is installed to tractor.

1. Install thatcherator to tractor.
2. Place lift handle in top hole for transport position.

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



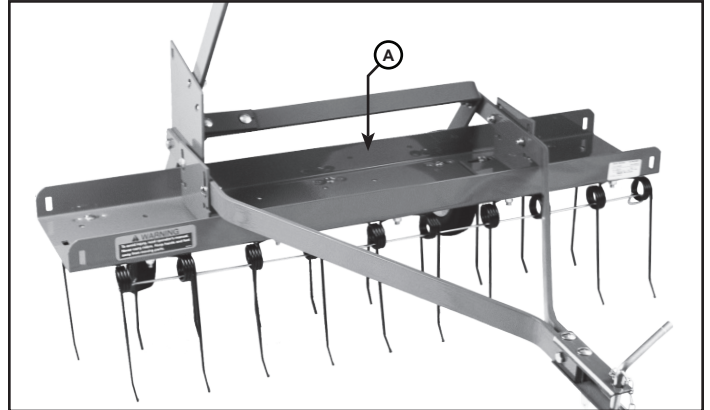
Step 4-A. Checking for Proper Tine Action

Grass should be less than 76 mm (3 in.) high for proper tine action during dethatching. The lift handle must be in the DETHATCH (center) position.

When in use, all tines on the thatcherator should deflect back and “flip” the thatch forward. If tines seem to drag without flipping forward, the tine tray is too low and should be raised. If all the tines stay in the free position, the tray should be lowered.

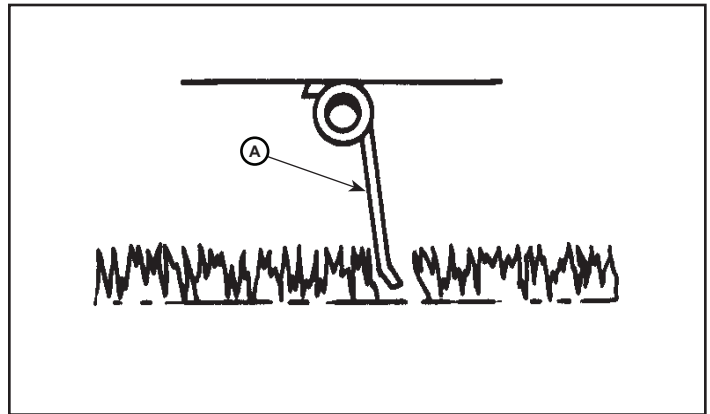
If the tines are not moving through the full range of motion, make up or down adjustments as required.

Step 3-B. Using the Weight Tray



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

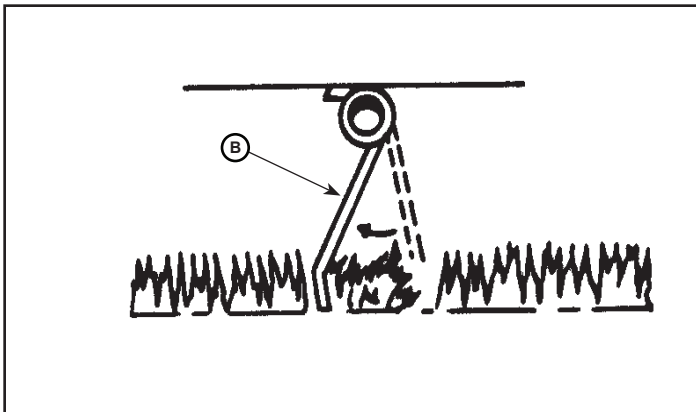
Step 4-B. Checking for Proper Tine Action



In free position (A), tines are relaxed and not working.

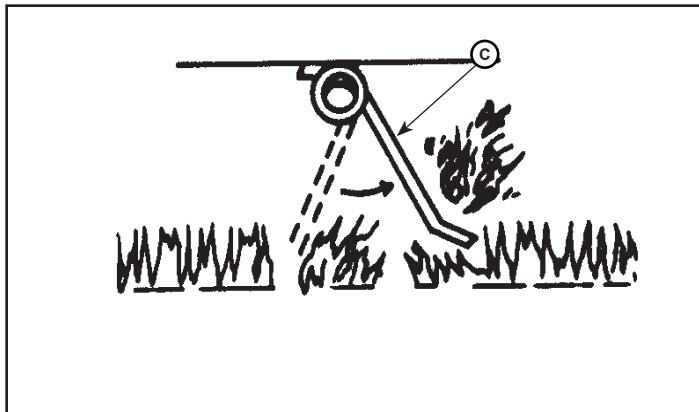
Operation

Step 4-C. Checking for Proper Tine Action



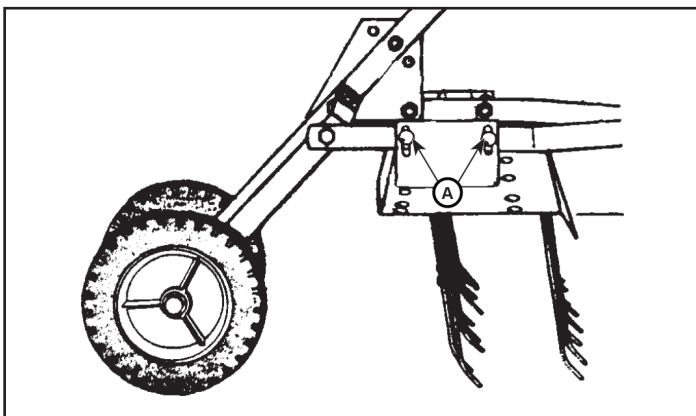
In position (B), tines are under tension and working.

Step 4-D. Checking for Proper Tine Action



In position (C), tines are released and flipping thatch upward.

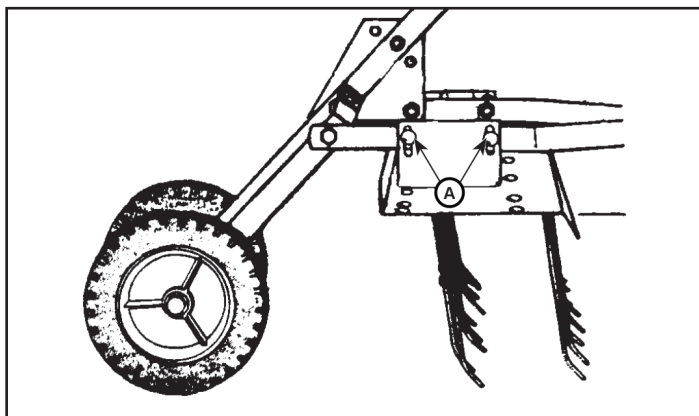
Step 5-A. Adjusting for Proper Tine Action



NOTE: Make up or down adjustments by no more than 6.4 mm (1/4 in.) each time, until proper results are achieved.

1. Install thatcherator to tractor.
2. Add recommended weight to weight tray.
3. Tow thatcherator to a level concrete or asphalt surface.
4. Park tractor safely. (See Parking Safely in the SAFETY section.)

Step 5-B. Adjusting for Proper Tine Action



5. Place lift handle in center hole for detaching position.
6. Loosen bolts (A) on each side of weight tray mounting brackets.
7. Raise or lower weight tray to place tine tips about 13 mm (1/2 in.) above ground surface.
8. Tighten the weight tray bolts completely.
9. Push tines rearward to check adjustment. Tine tips should touch ground surface. If not, repeat the adjustment.

Operation

Step 6. Tractor Ground Speed

- Check 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 the 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.

Step 7-B. Operating Thatcherator

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

Step 7-A. Operating Thatcherator



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).

Never operate with broken tines or without the safety wires installed through all tine sets.

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

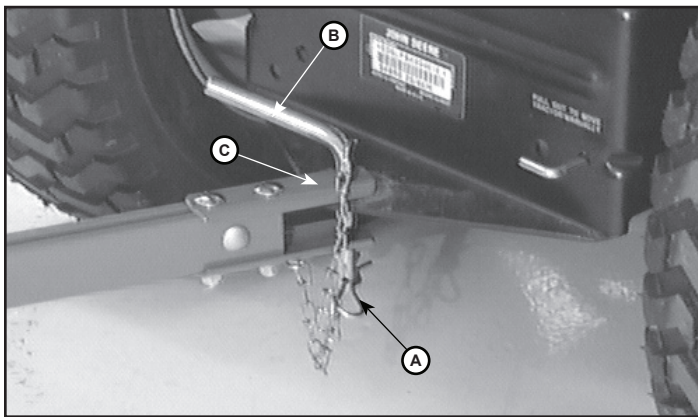
Always back carefully in a straight line to avoid jackknifing the attachment.

Removing and Storing

Removing Tow-Behind Attachment

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 (A).
4. Remove hitch pin (B).
5. Move attachment off tractor hitch plate.
6. Install hitch pin and spring locking pin to clevis (C) for storage.

Storing the Attachment

CAUTION: Avoid injury! Tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Store attachment so sharp parts are shielded from contact.

1. Park tractor safely. (See *Parking Safely* in the **SAFETY** section.)
2. Remove all weight and/or 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 and plugging spoons to prevent rust.
9. Store attachment in a dry area with tines against wall or floor to avoid accidental contact.
10. Block up attachment off the ground to prevent contact with moisture and take weight off the tires.
11. Wash attachment thoroughly. Allow to dry completely.

Removing the Attachment from Storage


CAUTION: Avoid injury! Tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Store attachment so sharp parts are shielded from contact.

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

Specifications and Service

Part Description	Thatcherator
Width	101.6 cm (40 in.)
Number of Tines	20, spring-loaded
Weight Tray Capacity	45 kg (100 lb)
Empty Mass	26.8 kg (59 lb)

Servicing the Attachment

 **CAUTION: Avoid injury! Tines are sharp. Wear gloves and handle with care. Shield sharp parts during service work.**

Stop engine.

Set parking brake before performing any maintenance.

To prevent or eliminate rust on tines, apply a light oil on them after each use.

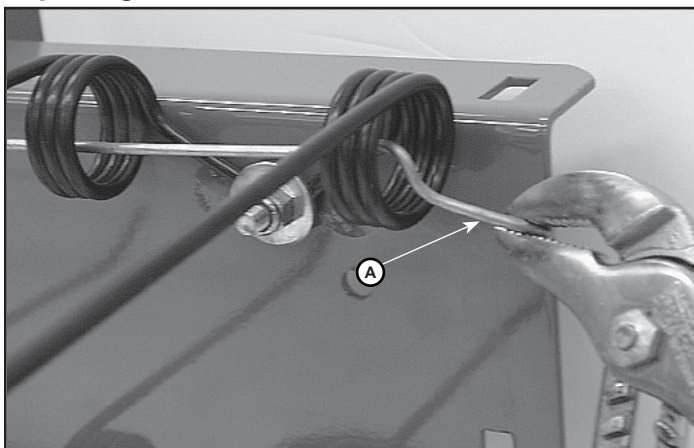
For rust appearing on any part of your attachment, sand lightly and coat with enamel.

Apply a drop of lubricating oil to each nylon/tine bearing assembly, axles, and working areas before each use.

Periodically check the aerating tines. Remove any debris that might build up and restrict their action.

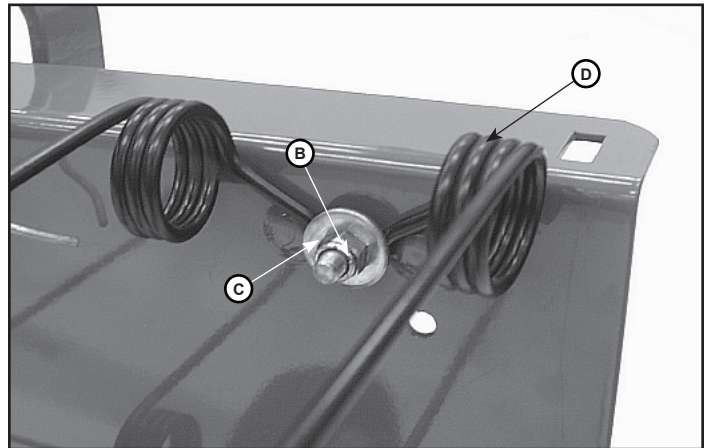
Periodically check tightness of all fasteners.

Replacing Thatcherator Tines



1. Straighten end of retention safety wire (A) with pliers.
2. Remove safety wire from damaged tine set.

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.



3. Remove and retain locknut (B) and washer (C). Then remove and discard the damaged tine set.
4. Install new tine set making sure tine tips are pointed in same direction as the other tines on the unit. Secure with original hardware.
5. Slide safety wire through all tine coils. Bend ends of safety wire over last coil (D) at each end of unit.

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.

