Ford

Operator's Manual

550

Tractor, Loader & Backhoe

Operator's Manual

FO-O-550 TLB

FORD

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

550

TRACTOR-LOADER-BACKHOE

CONTENTS

OPERATOR'S SEAT

Your new Ford 550 is equipped with a seat which will allow you to change from the loader operating position to the backhoe operating position and back to the loader operating position without leaving the seat, Figure 1. You may adjust the seat forward and rearward over a 9.0 in. (22.8 cm) range by lifting the seat release lever (2 & 3). Additionally, you may adjust the seat vertically over a 4.0 in. (10.2 cm) range by lifting the seat (1) and collar (4), placing the pin (5) in the appropriate post (6) hole, and lowering the seat and collar onto the pin.

ROLL OVER PROTECTIVE SYSTEM (ROPS) (OPTIONAL)

The new Ford 550 may be equipped with a ROPS frame cab (1), Figure 2, or a four-post ROPS frame and canopy (1) Figure 3. All vehicles with a ROPS frame cab or 4-post ROPS frame are equipped with a seat belt (1), Figure 4, which must be worn to maximize the protection offered by the roll over protective system. Always use your seat belt — seat belts save lives when they are used.

Figure 2
Roll Over Protective System (ROPS) Cab
1. Roll Over Protective System (ROPS) Cab

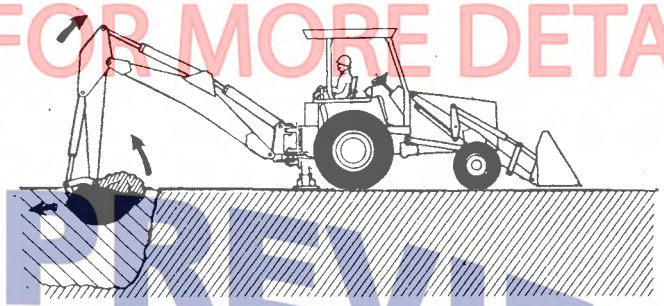
CAUTION: Never attach chains, ropes, cables or any other device to the ROPS or cab for pulling purposes, as they may cause the tractor to the tip backward. Always pull from the tractor drawbar or from a point below the rear axle.

Figure 1
Operator's Seat
1. Operator's Seat
2. Seat Release Lever—Released
3. Seat Release Lever—Latched
4. Collar
5. Pin
6. Post

Figure 3
Four Post Roll Over Protective System (ROPS) and Canopy
1. Four Post ROPS and Canopy

FILLING THE BUCKET (STANDARD BACKHOE OPERATION)

Operate two or more levers at the same time throughout the filling cycle for smooth action and maximum performance.

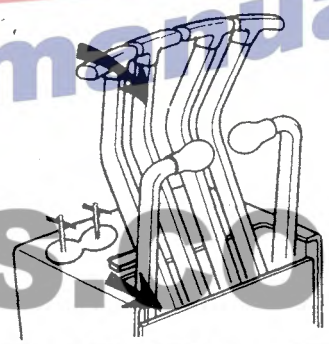


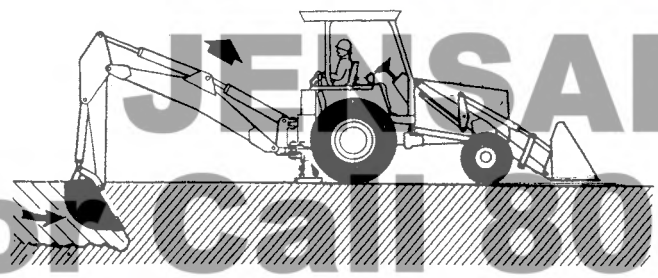
To obtain a cleaner trench and avoid the buildup of material directly in front of the backhoe, crowd out and completely curl the bucket while starting to lift it from the excavation. In this way, excess material will fall back into the excavation.

FILLING THE BUCKET (AUTOMATED BACKHOE OPERATION)

To fill the backhoe bucket using the automated controls, turn the selector lever to "automatic". Then, lower the bucket to the dig area and position the bucket to obtain the desired bucket angle. The crowd lever should then be pulled toward the operator to begin filling the bucket. While filling the bucket:

Control the bucket attitude throughout the digging cycle to keep the teeth at the proper angle for best penetration. This will minimize dragging and scraping the bucket through the ground.





When digging in hard-packed soil, bucket penetration can be increased by applying down pressure with the boom while crowding in and curling the bucket. If the crowd action "stalls", it may be necessary to apply lift occasionally during the digging cycle to correct the bucket depth.

- If the dipstick becomes overloaded due to the "crowding" action, the bucket "curls".
- If the dipstick and bucket both become overloaded, the boom lifts slightly.
- Upon relief of the overloaded condition(s), the backhoe reverts to crowd only, or crowd and curl, depending on digging conditions.

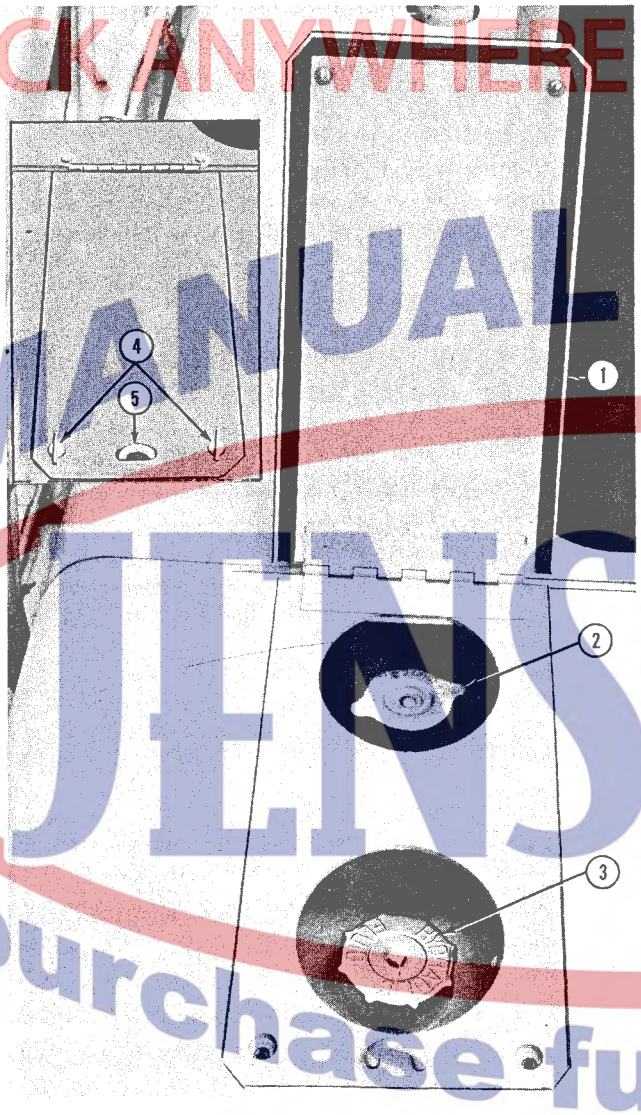


Figure 67
Hydraulic System & Engine Coolant Check

1. Security Panel
2. Engine Coolant Fill
3. Hydraulic Fill/Dipstick
4. Security Panel Latches
5. Padlock Hasp

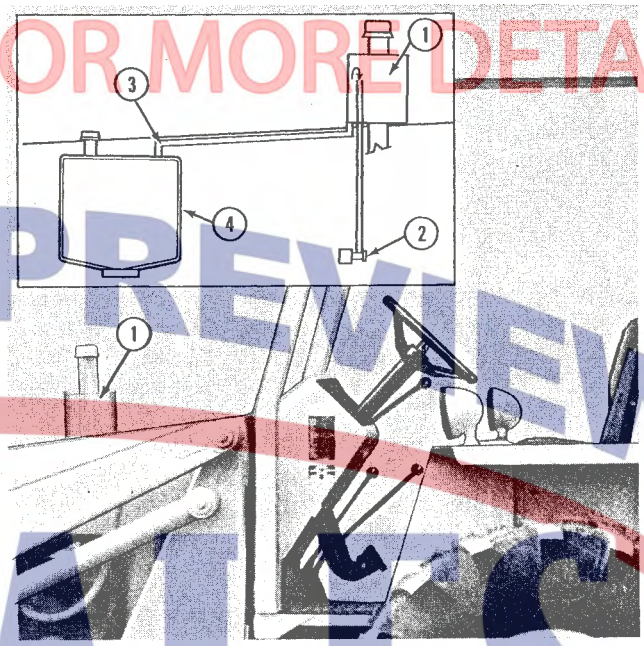


Figure 68
Hydraulic System Oil Breather

1. Vapor/Oil Separator
2. Breather Assembly
3. Reservoir Vent Fitting
4. Reservoir

1. With the engine off, drain the filter body (3) by loosening the filter body bolts (2), Figure 69. The filter has an anti-siphon valve (6) which prevents reservoir oil loss while servicing the filter.
2. Remove the four bolts (2) securing the filter body (3) to the filter head (7).
3. Remove and discard the filter element (5).
4. Visually inspect the filter head (7) and filter body (3) for contamination. If visibly dirty, clean with a lint-free cloth. Do not clean the filter head (7) or body (3) if contamination is not evident.
5. Check the bypass valve for free operation by reaching into the filter base and pushing on the disc in the valve.
6. Apply a film of oil to the gasket of a new filter element and install the element in the filter head.
7. Assemble the filter base to the filter head and secure with the four previously removed bolts.

IMPORTANT: Be sure the seal installed in the filter base is properly positioned prior to assembling the filter base to the filter head.