



Versatile
Operator's Manual
4400
Swather

Operator's Manual

JENSALES.COM

or Call 800-443-0625



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 **VERSATILE** **4400 Swather**

1	Safety	1
2	Operation	4
3	Table Lubrication and Maintenance	12
4	Tractor Lubrication and Maintenance	28
5	Crimper Lubrication and Maintenance	46
6	Troubleshooting	51
7	Storage	55
8	Specifications and Schematics	57
	Lubrication and Maintenance Chart	65
9	Index	67



MANUAL PREVIEW

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Serial Number Location

IMPORTANT

When ordering parts, state the serial number of swather, table and engine. To obtain the fastest service always remember to:

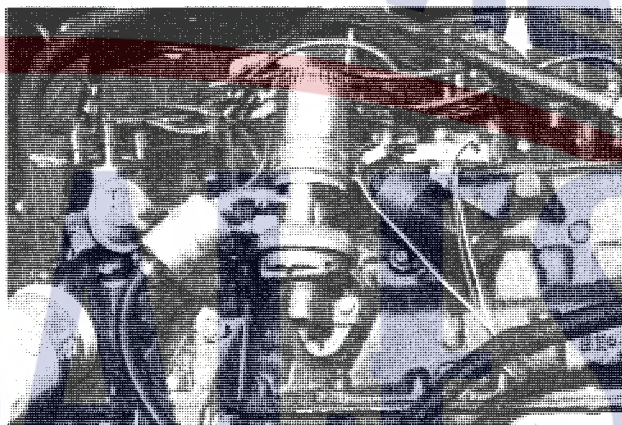
1. Order the part by the correct number.
2. State the machine model and year.
3. Include the serial number of tractor table and engine.



TRACTOR

Serial number plate is stamped on the left hand side of the operator's platform.

SERIAL



ENGINE

Serial plate located on the right hand side of the valve cover.

SERIAL



TABLE

Serial number is located on the upper rear end of the swaybar housing.

SERIAL



CRIMPER

Serial number plate is stamped on the right hand side of the crimper.

SERIAL

Introduction

We at Versatile Farm Equipment Company are pleased you have chosen the VERSATILE® 4400 Swather for your farming operation. It has evolved through the ideas and suggestions submitted to us by customers such as yourself.

We ask that you study this manual and adopt the preventative maintenance program outlined in it. Preventative maintenance will provide you with troublefree service for years to come. The suggested schedule has been designed to meet most operating conditions. It may be necessary to adjust your maintenance program to suit your specific operating conditions and to perform the maintenance more often than outlined.

You have received a Ford Operator's and Maintenance Manual. We ask that for maintenance on the engine not covered by our manual, you follow the instructions outlined in the Ford manual. Before placing the swather in service, become familiar with all the procedures described in both manuals.

Your Versatile dealer is factory trained to provide you with genuine parts and professional repair service. Consult him for all your service needs.





Watch for this symbol. It identifies potential hazards to health or personal safety. It points out safety precautions. It means: ATTENTION - Be Alert. Your safety is involved.



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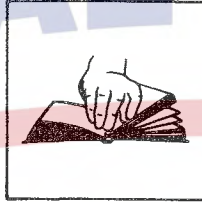
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1 Safety

National Safety Council statistics tell us that many people die or suffer serious injury needlessly every year, as a result of farm accidents. Don't become a statistic.

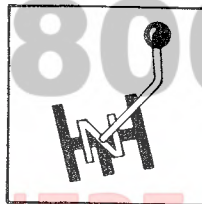
Carefully review the procedures in this manual with all operations **ANNUALLY**. It is important that all operators be familiar with, **AND FOLLOW**, safety precautions.



Operating instructions must be given to everyone using the Model 4400 Swather before operation and at least once a year thereafter in compliance with OSHA Regulation 1928.57.

GENERAL SAFETY

1. Mount a fire extinguisher in the tractor cab. Maintain it regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Review its operation at least annually with all personnel.
2. Always keep clothing relatively tight and belted. It is also a good practice to remove jewelry or any objects that might catch in moving machinery.
3. Use steps and handholds when entering or leaving the swather.
4. Never allow passengers on the swather, either in the cab or outside it.
5. Ensure all controls are in neutral and parkbrake engaged before starting swather.
6. Clear personnel before putting swather in motion.



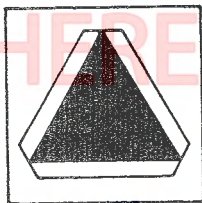
OPERATING SAFETY

1. Never operate the swather inside a closed building.
2. **BE ALERT.** Watch where you are going, especially at row ends, road slopes, and around obstacles. Where possible, stay away from the edge of a gully or ditch.
3. Exercise extreme caution when steering the swather in reverse.
4. Operate the swather smoothly, avoiding sudden turns, starts or stops. Never shift abruptly into reverse to stop. This will damage the drive train.
5. Never allow anyone to stand behind the crimper while the swather is operating. The crimper rollers may pick up stones and throw them backward with enough force to cause injury.
6. When the cutterbar plugs up, stop swather, lift table and lock it. Stop engine and engage parkbrake. Clean cutterbar and check for broken guards and knife sections. Resume operation once cutterbar is operational.
7. Never operate the swather at high speeds in crowded areas. This could cause machine damage and injury to the operator and others.
8. Before dismounting swather for any reason, disengage the table drive, reduce engine speed to idle, set speed control lever in neutral, centerlock steering wheel, engage parkbrake and shut off engine.
9. When leaving the swather for any reason, remove the ignition key. Never leave the table or reel raised.



TRANSPORT SAFETY

1. When transporting the swather on public highways, display a slow moving vehicle sign. In some jurisdictions, special regulations may apply to highway travel. Consult your local law enforcement agency for further information.



2. Ensure headlights will not blind the operator of an oncoming vehicle.
3. Transport swather with the table raised 18 in. (460 mm) above the ground. Use extreme caution when travelling over rough ground.

MAINTENANCE SAFETY

1. Shut off engine and disengage table drive before lubricating, servicing or adjusting swather.

2. Add coolant only when engine is stopped. Turn radiator cap to the stop to relieve pressure before removing cap.

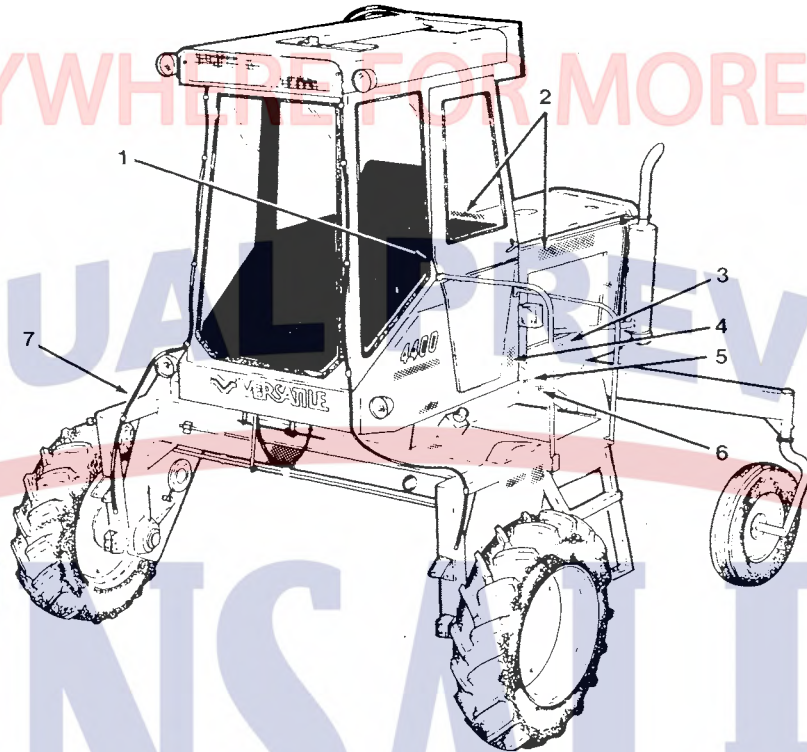
3. Never refuel when the engine is hot or running. Do not smoke near fuel. Use extreme caution when handling fuel. Vaporized gasoline is especially dangerous.



4. Do not smoke when adding water to the battery. Explosive hydrogen gas may be present.
5. Relieve all hydraulic pressure before servicing components. Use a piece of wood or cardboard and wear gloves and goggles when searching for hydraulic leaks.
6. Ensure all guards are in place after servicing components.

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SAFETY DECALS



1.



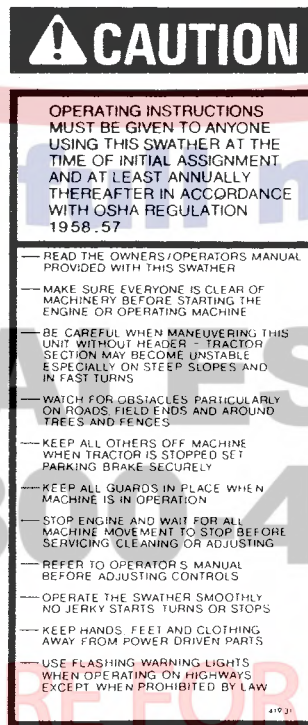
2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



2 Operation

SAFETY

DO NOT START OR OPERATE SWATHER IN A CLOSED BUILDING.

TURN LIGHTSWITCH TO THE FIRST DETENT TO ACTIVATE HAZARD FLASHING LIGHTS IF TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC ROADS UNLESS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

ENSURE ALL CONTROLS ARE IN NEUTRAL AND PARKBRAKE APPLIED BEFORE STARTING ENGINE.

PUT HYDROSTATICS IN NEUTRAL, ENGAGE PARKBRAKE AND SHUT OFF ENGINE BEFORE ADJUSTING SEAT OR LEAVING CAB.

KEEP ALL SHIELDS IN PLACE.

BEFORE USING HYDRAULIC SYSTEM, ENSURE ALL CONNECTIONS ARE TIGHT AND ALL LINES, PIPES AND HOSES ARE UNDAMAGED.

USE A PIECE OF CARDBOARD OR WOOD AND WEAR GOGGLES AND GLOVES WHEN SEARCHING FOR HYDRAULIC LEAKS.

SEE A DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY IF INJURED BY HYDRAULIC FLUID UNDER PRESSURE. MEDICAL TREATMENT MUST BE ADMINISTERED IMMEDIATELY OR SERIOUS INFECTION OR REACTION CAN DEVELOP.



BE ALERT

TO THE NEW OPERATOR

The 4400 Swather has a VERSATILE® designed hydrostatic drive system which is highly responsive to the operator. An unfamiliar operator should spend time learning the steering, driving and stopping characteristics of the machine.

ENGINE BREAK-IN

The Ford engine used in the VERSATILE® swather requires a break-in period to prevent damage. Do the following for the first 15 hours:

1. Avoid operation for long periods at full load or high speed.
2. Check oil level every two or three hours. Top up as required.

For further information, consult Ford Maintenance and Operator's Manual.

NOTE

Engine oil pressure and level should be very closely monitored until the engine has passed break-in period.

PRE-START INSPECTION

Monitor swather performance during the first three days of use. Shut it down after the first one-half hour for an inspection. Repeat inspection in one hour, three hours, five hours and every 10 hours thereafter for the first three days.

After the first day in the field, check:

1. Tire inflation
2. Hydrostatic oil level
3. Hydraulic oil level
4. Engine coolant level

5. Battery electrolyte level

4. Ensure hydrostatic control is in neutral.

6. Engine oil level

NOTE

7. Belts, hoses, lines, fittings, seals, nuts and bolts for looseness or failure

Swather will not start unless hydrostatic control lever is in neutral and steering is center locked.

8. Clean radiator and cooler fins

9. Fuel level

NOTE

Check engine, hydraulic/hydrostatic oil levels every three to five hours during the first 30 hours or three day period.

5. Ensure swather is clear of obstructions.

6. Turn key ON. Check that alternator and charge pressure lights are ON.

If buzzer sounds, the steering wheel is not center locked. Move wheel until buzzer stops. Turn key to start. As soon as engine starts release key. Both lights should go out.

DAILY INSPECTION

1. Check engine crankcase oil level.
2. Check engine coolant level.
3. Clean radiators and grill.
4. Check fluid level in hydraulic/hydrostatic reservoir.
5. Inspect all belts, lights, safety shields, platform steps, switches, hoses, lines, fittings, seals, canvas, tires, nuts and bolts.
6. Grease all fittings requiring daily lubrication.
7. Check and clean cutterbar. Examine guards, knives and knife clips for damage.
8. Remove stubble buildup.
9. Tension canvases.
10. Check battery electrolyte level.
11. Check fuel level.

IMPORTANT

Shut off engine and do not operate swather when alternator light glows with r/min above idle. This indicates alternator is not charging. Do not operate swather if oil pressure light stays on. This indicates low pressure or low oil level.

7. Check gauges to ensure engine is running properly.
8. Push choke in as engine warms up. Avoid excessive r/min during warm-up.
9. Warm up engine and hydrostatic drive until temperature gauge reads in the green zone before placing swather under load.

ENGINE STARTING

1. Set parkbrake.
2. Pull throttle knob 50 percent above idle.
3. Pull choke.

COLD WEATHER OPERATION

Hydraulic/Hydrostatic System

Allow engine to run for several minutes before operating the swather. Set the throttle at 50 percent and allow the hydraulic/hydrostatic system to warm. Operate all hydraulic controls slowly to allow warm fluid to circulate through the system.

Cooling System

All swathers are factory shipped with a 1:1 mixture of glycol based antifreeze and water in the radiator. Check antifreeze strength against minimum temperature in your area. Strengthen antifreeze by draining and refilling.

Electrical System

Keep battery charged at all times. Do not add water to batteries unless engine will be run for at least 30 minutes. Water and electrolyte do not mix readily in cold weather.

Fuel System

Fill fuel tank at the end of each day to avoid condensation.

SWATHER OPERATION

1. Release parkbrake.
2. Pull throttle knob UP to provide sufficient flow to the hydrostatic motors on wheel legs.
3. Step on right (inside) pedal to lift table and crimper (if equipped).
4. Slowly move speed control lever into forward or reverse. Refer to REVERSE STEERING, following.
5. Adjust throttle and speed control lever as desired.

— CAUTION —

WHEN OPERATING SWATHER IN REVERSE, TURN STEERING WHEEL OPPOSITE TO DESIRED DIRECTION.



6. Reduce speed by moving speed control lever toward neutral. Adjust throttle. Put speed control lever in neutral and engage parkbrake.

7. Move throttle knob to sufficient idle speed to keep engine running.
8. Engage table drive clutch (this also engages optional crimper drive).
9. Position table and reel to desired cutting height.
10. Pull throttle knob to full governed engine speed. Release parkbrake.
11. Slowly advance speed control lever to desired forward speed and move into field.
12. Maintain governed engine speed for correct table speed. Vary ground speed with the speed control lever.

REVERSE STEERING

1. Steering control is reversed when speed control lever is moved into reverse.
2. When in reverse, turn wheel opposite to the desired direction. Turn steering wheel right for left turns, and left for right turns.
3. Always maintain a low speed in reverse.

STOPPING

1. When stopping swather, gradually destroke hydrostatic control lever to neutral.
2. Reduce engine speed to idle.
3. Disengage table and reel drives.
4. To shut off engine, turn key OFF and remove. Turn off all electrical accessories.
5. Before leaving swather ensure:
 - a. Speed control lever is in neutral
 - b. Steering wheel is centered
 - c. Table drive is disengaged
 - d. Lights and accessories are OFF
 - e. Parkbrake engaged.
6. Relieve canvas tension at end of each day.

TURNING

Lift table from ground before turning. Turn steering wheel slowly to prevent damage to table.

TOWING

IMPORTANT

Never tow swather. It should move under its own power or be transported on a flat bed.

HIGHWAY DRIVING

In transporting or driving the swather on a public road, the driver assumes responsibility for his own safety and that of others. The swather must be entirely roadworthy with all systems functioning.

Be alert to all potential hazards on public roads. Obey all traffic signs and travel at a safe speed consistent with weather and road conditions. Do not change speed abruptly.

Wait for all traffic to clear before entering a public road, then proceed. Keep the swather clear of the approaching lane, so vehicles can pass. If the road has a shoulder, be prepared to pull onto it to let motorists pass. In heavy traffic, stay on the shoulder if the law permits. Slow down and stop when approaching an intersection and be prepared to yield the right-of-way.

To stabilize the swather, set the table height about 18 in (450 mm) above the ground. Avoid going too far into shoulders, ditches and gullies.

OPERATOR CONTROLS

For safety and ease of operation, become familiar with the controls and instruments before operating the swather. Review manual at least annually with all operators to ensure proper use and function of the cab controls and instruments.

Parkbrake: Engages two brake discs on the inboard sides of the wheel legs. Pull lever up to activate brakes and allow engine to start. A warning buzzer sounds when brake is disengaged.

Choke Control: Pull out before starting engine. As engine warms up, slowly push knob in.

Keyswitch: Turn key fully clockwise and hold to engage starter. When engine starts, release key. Turn key counterclockwise to shut off engine.

Speed Control Lever: Controls forward and reverse speed. Put level in neutral before starting engine. To move swather forward, slide lever forward to desired speed. To stop swather, return lever to neutral. To reverse swather, slowly move lever rearward from neutral.

IMPORTANT

Operate speed control lever smoothly. Abrupt starting and stopping can damage swather.

Throttle Control: Depress center knob and pull ring up to increase engine speed. Maximum governor speed of 2 800 r/min is required for efficient operation.

Lightswitch: Turn knob to the first detent for panel lights, headlights, taillight and flashers. Turn to second detent for panel lights and front and rear worklights.

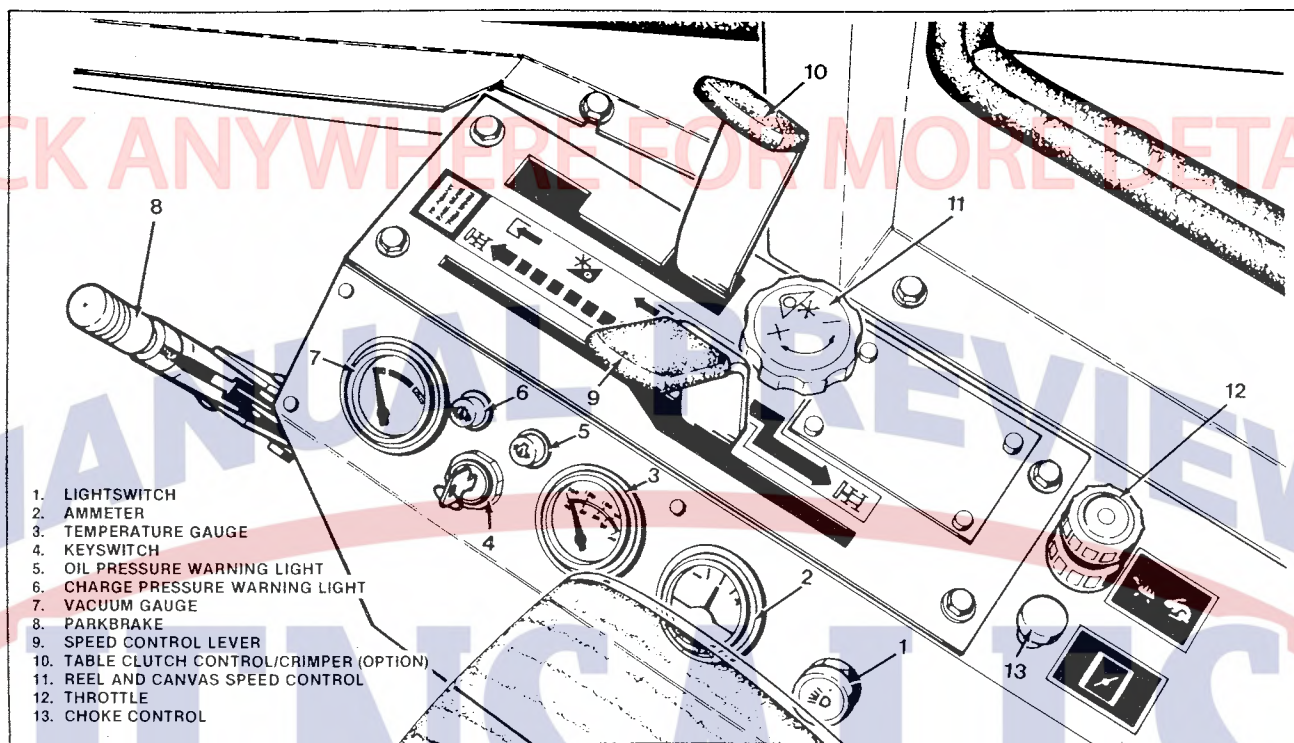
Steering Wheel: Controls hydrostatic steering system. Adjust steering wheel angle and column height with the two knobs on column; bottom knob adjusts steering wheel angle, top knob adjusts column height. Before starting swather, lock steering wheel in the center position. Engine will not start unless steering is center locked.

IMPORTANT

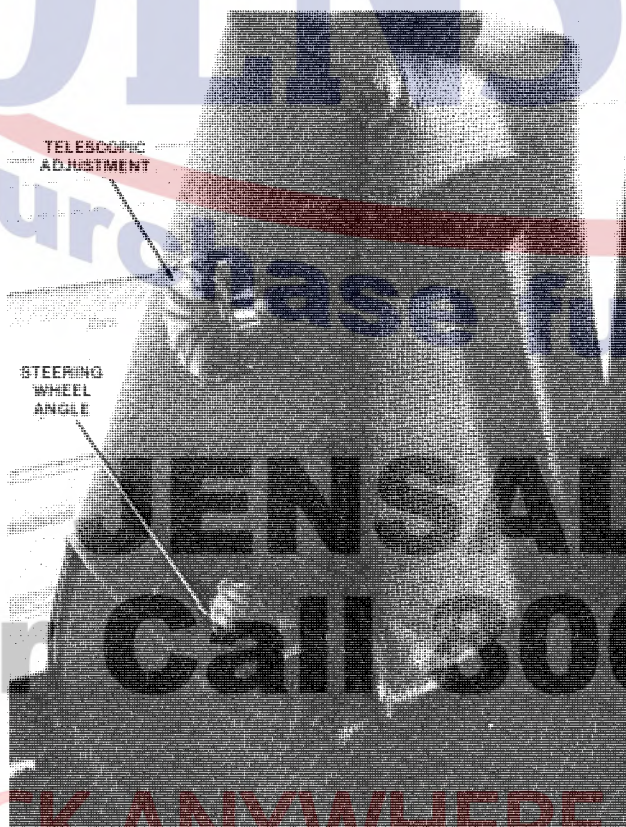
Do not turn steering wheel out of the locked center position until speed control lever is out of neutral.

Seat Adjustment

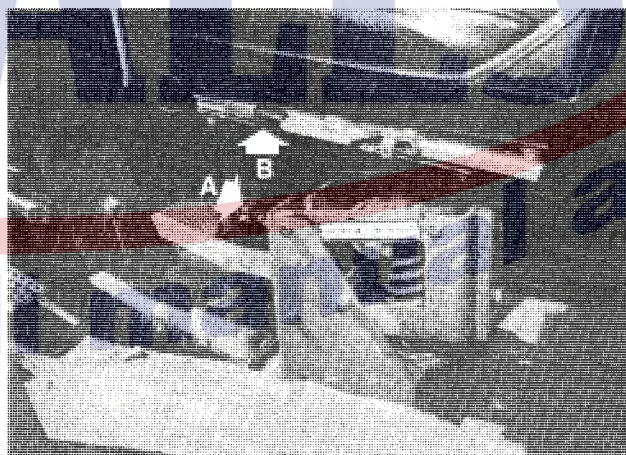
1. Adjust knob (A) outward for light operators and inward for heavier operators.
2. Pull lever (B) outward to adjust seat fore and aft position.



Swather Controls



Steering Wheel Adjustment



Seat Adjustment

WARNING LIGHTS

Engine Oil Pressure: Indicates low oil level and/or pressure. If light comes ON while engine is running, shut down immediately.

Hydrostatic Charge Pressure: Indicates low charge pressure in the hydrostatic system. If light comes ON while swather is running, shut down immediately and check system for leaks.