

QUICK START GUIDE



TX45 Drum Mower

IMPORTANT

READ

BEFORE

FIRST USE

QUICK START GUIDE

TX45 Drum Mower

STARTUP ESSENTIALS

WARNING: THE DRUM UNIT OF THE MOWER SITS COMPLETELY ON THE GROUND DURING OPERATION. **Do not attempt to raise the mower while cutting.** The mower is not designed to do this, and damage will likely occur to the mower and/or PTO shafts. Harm from projectiles can also occur.

- Because the lower discs ride on the ground, steps must be taken to avoid scalping the ground. Ensure that the skid discs are **raised slightly in the front** by extending the tractor's top link, which will adjust the angle of the mower.
- When ready to cut, lower the 3 point hitch until the drums just touch the ground, but not any lower. The lift arms should be sloping slightly downward toward the drum unit. This will ensure that the arms do not contact the drum unit and force it downward into the ground.
- Be sure to **remove the shipping bracket(s)** (Figure 1) that are bolted above the red sheet metal guard (your mower may not have these brackets or may only have 1 installed).
- Always **start the mower at idle speed**. This is especially important if you have an electric-start/push button PTO. Starting the mower at too fast of a throttle will apply extreme torque to the PTO shaft. The shaft's shear bolt will break or damage may occur. If the engine stalls when turning on the PTO at low speed, don't worry, this is common and does not result in harm to the tractor. Immediately start the tractor back up and try again until the tractor no longer stalls.
- Be sure to install the PTO shafts in the correct direction/location. See the accompanying diagram (Figure 2) to understand shaft orientation.

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- **Always cut at 540 PTO RPM**, starting at idle speed and gradually increasing the throttle. Running the mower at too slow of an RPM will make cutting less efficient and stress the machine and the tractor.
- **Replace blades regularly.** Sharp blades allow fast work and prevent over-working the tractor and mower. The blades are double-edged and can be switched from one drum to the other to use the opposite edge.
- **We recommend replacing the blade mounting bolts regularly as well.** Over time, the bolt heads can wear from normal use, and they may wear to the point where they can no longer be removed with a hex key. The bolts are inexpensive and annual replacement avoids the hassle of difficult removal.
- The design of the mower is such that the secondary PTO shaft (the one between the gearbox and the drum unit) must be disconnected to allow the mower to fully swing into transport mode. The loose end of the shaft can either be temporarily removed during transport, or it can be secured to another part of the mower to keep it from falling.
- The machine is shipped with oil in the gearboxes. **Double-check the oil level and top off as needed before each use.** Use an extreme pressure (EP) gear oil near 90 weight (80w90 is a common type).
- There is no drain plug for the gearboxes. It is recommended to use an oil suction pump to remove oil when changing it in the beginning of each the season.

DO...	DON'T...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always mow with the drums completely on the ground• Run the mower at 540 PTO RPM• Start the mower at idle speed• Remove the shipping bracket(s) before use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EVER raise the drum unit while mowing• Install the PTO shafts in the wrong direction/location

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ASSEMBLY TIPS

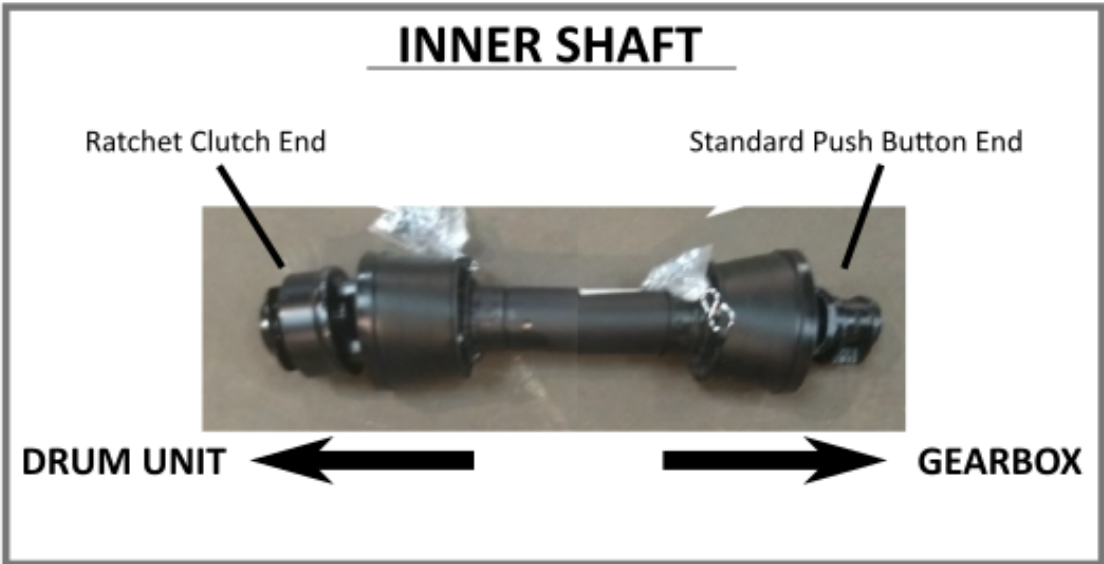
- Use the diagram attached to the red sheet metal guard to understand the orientation of the lift arms. **Pay special attention to the spacing of the pins on the two long arms** as they are different and must be in the correct orientation.
- Be sure to remove the shipping brackets shown in Figure 1. Failure to remove the inner shipping bracket may cause damage to the machine, as the lift arm can contact and push downward on the drum unit. Use the same bolts to secure the red guard to the drum unit after removing the brackets.
- Refer to Figure 2 to understand PTO shaft orientation.
- As with any new implement, the shaft that attaches to the tractor may need to be cut to length. Consult the included PTO Shaft Cutting Guide for advice.

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Figure 1: Remove Shipping Brackets



Figure 2: PTO Shaft Orientation



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