

OPERATION

⚠ Like all mechanical tools, reasonable care must be used when operating machine. **Inspect machine work area and machine before operating. Make sure that all operators of this equipment are trained in general machine use and safety.**

🔧 **PUT OIL IN ENGINE BEFORE STARTING**

STARTING

🔧 **ENGINE:** See engine manufacturer's instructions for type and amount of oil and gasoline used. Engine must be level when checking and filling oil and gasoline.

GEAR REDUCTION: See engine manufacturer's instructions for type and amount of oil used. Engine must be level when checking and filling the gear reduction case. The engine is shipped from the factory with oil in the gear case. It should be checked before first use.

ENGINE SPEED: Controlled by lever on the engine. Under normal conditions, operate at the minimum throttle speed to accomplish your task.

NOTE: The unit ground speed varies with the engine speed.

FUEL VALVE: Move fuel valve to "ON" position
Honda: Located below the air cleaner on the engine.

CHOKE: Engage the choke when starting a cold engine.
Honda: Located below the air cleaner on the engine.

THROTTLE: Move the throttle control lever on the engine to fast position. Pull starting rope to start engine.

IF YOUR UNIT FAILS TO START:

See Troubleshooting on page 14.

NOTE: Honda engines are equipped with a low oil sensor to prevent engine damage. When it senses a low oil condition (i.e. unit is operating or sitting on a steep slope) the engine shuts down. The low oil condition must be corrected before the engine can be restarted. See the engine owner's manual for more information.

DO NOT operate if excessive vibration occurs. If excessive vibration occurs, shut engine off immediately and check for damaged or worn tire reel, loose pulley bolts or set screws, loose engine or lodged foreign objects. (See trouble shooting section on page 14).

HANDLING & TRANSPORTING:

🔧 **CAUTION:** This unit is heavy. It requires at least two people to lift it.

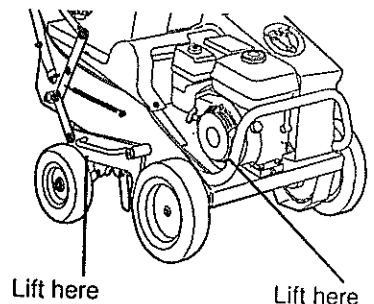
REMOVE: The aerator is equipped with a water tank as weight. Drain the water using drain plug before loading and unloading the unit.

NOTE: The water tank is also heavy (up to 50 lbs.) when it is full of water. The tank should be drained then handled carefully and secured in place during transport.

LIFTING: The aerator is equipped with lift handles. After draining the water tank, lift the unit with two people, one on each side of the unit. Grip the unit at the points marked "LIFT HERE" when lifting. Lift using your legs and not your back. See Fig. 2

USING RAMPS: Use ramps that are of adequate strength for a unit of this weight. When loading the aerator using ramps be sure the ramp is not too steep and that the surface of the ramp provides good traction.

⚠ **Never lift the machine while the engine is running.**

Fig 2

IT TAKES AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE. ONE ON EACH SIDE OF THE UNIT



AE Owner's Manual

PARKING

NEVER PARK THIS UNIT ON A SLOPE OF ANY KIND. Always keep tines in the up position when parking the unit.

UNIT STORAGE

Never store engine indoors or in enclosed poorly ventilated areas with fuel in tank, where fuel fumes may reach an open flame, spark or pilot light, as on a furnace, water heater, clothes dryer or other gas appliance.

If engine is to be unused for 30 days or more, prepare as follows:

Remove all gasoline from carburetor and fuel tank to prevent gum deposits from forming on these parts and causing possible malfunction of engine. Drain fuel outdoors, into an approved container, away from open flame. Be sure engine is cool. Do not smoke. Run engine until fuel tank is empty and engine runs out of gasoline.

NOTE: Fuel stabilizer (such as Sta-Bil) is an acceptable alternative in minimizing the formation of fuel gum deposits during storage. Add stabilizer to gasoline in fuel tank or storage container. Always follow mix ratio found on stabilizer container. Run engine at least 10 min. after adding stabilizer to allow it to reach the carburetor.

TINES RAISING/LOWERING

The tines are raised or lowered into the ground by operating the tine engagement lever on the upper handle. Tine penetration is very dependent on surface preparation. READ the entire operation section before aerating.

AERATING OPERATION

MOW: Mow the lawn to its normal cut height.

WATER: For the best performance and maximum tine penetration the lawn should be thoroughly watered the day before aeration.

INSPECT lawn before beginning work. Remove all rocks, wire, string, or other objects that can present a hazard during work prior to starting.

IDENTIFY and mark all fixed objects to be avoided during work, such as sprinkler heads, water valves, buried cables, or clothes line anchors, etc.

START ENGINE: See page 8.

SET SPEED: The ground speed of your aerator varies with the engine speed. Set the engine at approximately half throttle to start. Speed may be increased based on the turf conditions (i.e. large flat areas) and operator experience. Speed should be lowered when operating under adverse turf conditions (i.e. fenced areas, hills, or slopes).

MOVE: Be sure the tine engagement control is in the up position (tines out of the ground) and engage the wheel drive by squeezing the operators clutch bail against the handle. Transport the aerator to the work area.

