

# 240, 245, 260, 265, 285, and 320 Lawn and Garden Tractors

## TECHNICAL MANUAL



**John Deere  
Worldwide Commercial and  
Consumer Equipment Division**

**TM1426 (01SEP96)  
Replaces TM1426 (01SEP92)**

This technical manual is written for an experienced technician and contains sections that are specifically for this product. It is a part of a total product support program.

The manual is organized so that all the information on a particular system is kept together. The order of grouping is as follows:












- Table of Contents
- Specifications
- Component Location
- System Schematic
- Theory of Operation
- Troubleshooting Chart
- Diagnostics
- Tests & Adjustments
- Repair

*NOTE: Depending on the particular section or system being covered, not all of the above groups may be used.*

Each section will be identified with a symbol rather than a number. The groups and pages within a section will be consecutively numbered.

All information, illustrations and specifications in this manual are based on the latest information available at the time of publication. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.

We appreciate your input on this manual. To help, there are postage paid post cards included at the back. If you find any errors or want to comment on the layout of the manual please fill out one of the cards and mail it back to us.

<b>Safety</b>	
<b>General Information</b>	
<b>Engine—240/245 (FC420V)</b>	
<b>Engine—260/265 (FC540V)</b>	
<b>Engine—285/320 (FD590V)</b>	
<b>Fuel Injection System— 285/320 (FD590V)</b>	
<b>Electrical Systems</b>	
<b>Gear Power Train— 240/260</b>	
<b>Hydrostatic Power Train— 245/265/285/320</b>	
<b>Steering</b>	
<b>Hydraulics</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Repair</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Index</b>	

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# CONTENTS



	<b>Page</b>
<b>SAFETY</b> .....	<b>1-2</b>
RECOGNIZE SAFETY INFORMATION .....	1-2
UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS .....	1-2
FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS .....	1-2
HANDLE FLUIDS SAFELY - AVOID FIRES .....	1-2
PREVENT BATTERY EXPLOSIONS .....	1-3
PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES .....	1-3
PREVENT ACID BURNS .....	1-3
SERVICE COOLING SYSTEM SAFELY .....	1-4
AVOID HIGH-PRESSURE FLUIDS .....	1-4
PARK MACHINE SAFELY .....	1-4
SUPPORT MACHINE PROPERLY .....	1-4
WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING .....	1-5
WORK IN CLEAN AREA .....	1-5
SERVICE MACHINES SAFELY .....	1-5
WORK IN VENTILATED AREA .....	1-5
ILLUMINATE WORK AREA SAFELY .....	1-6
REPLACE SAFETY SIGNS .....	1-6
USE PROPER LIFTING EQUIPMENT .....	1-6
SERVICE TIRES SAFELY .....	1-6
AVOID HEATING NEAR PRESSURIZED FLUID LINES .....	1-7
REMOVE PAINT BEFORE WELDING OR HEATING .....	1-7
USE PROPER TOOLS .....	1-7
DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY .....	1-7
LIVE WITH SAFETY .....	1-8



**SAFETY**

**RECOGNIZE SAFETY INFORMATION**



TS1389

This is the safety-alert symbol. When you see this symbol on your machine or in this manual, be alert to potential for personal injury.

Follow recommended precautions and safe operating practices.

**UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS**



TS187

A signal word - DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION - is used with the safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards.

DANGER or WARNING safety signs are located near specific hazards. General precautions are listed on CAUTION safety signs. CAUTION also call attention to safety messages in this manual.

**FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**



TS201

Carefully read all safety messages in this manual and on your machine safety signs. Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace missing or damaged safety signs. Be sure new equipment components and repair parts include the current safety signs. Replacement safety signs are available from your John Deere dealer.

Learn how to operate the machine and how to use controls properly. DO NOT let anyone operate without instruction.

Keep your machine in proper working condition. Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.

If you DO NOT understand any part of this manual and need assistance, contact your John Deere dealer.

**HANDLE FLUIDS SAFELY - AVOID FIRES**



TS227

When you work around fuel, DO NOT smoke or work near heaters or other fire hazards.

Store flammable fluids away from fire hazards. DO NOT incinerate or puncture pressurized containers.

Make sure machine is clean of trash, grease, and debris.

DO NOT store oily rags; they can ignite and burn spontaneously.

## PREVENT BATTERY EXPLOSIONS



TS204

Keep sparks, lighted matches, and open flame away from the top of battery. Battery gas can explode.

Never check battery charges by placing a metal object across the posts. Use a volt-meter or hydrometer.

DO NOT charge a frozen battery; it may explode. Warm battery to **16°C (60°F)**.

## PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES



TS291

Be prepared if a fire starts.

Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguisher handy.

Keep emergency numbers for doctors, ambulance service, hospital, and fire department near your telephone.

## PREVENT ACID BURNS



TS203

Sulfuric acid in battery electrolyte is poisonous. It is strong enough to burn skin, eat holes in clothing, and cause blindness if splashed into eyes.

Avoid the hazard by:

1. Filling batteries in a well-ventilated area.
2. Wearing eye protection and rubber gloves.
3. Avoiding breathing fumes when electrolyte is added.
4. Avoiding spilling or dripping electrolyte.
5. Use proper jump start procedure.

If you spill acid on yourself:

1. Flush your skin with water.
2. Apply baking soda or lime to help neutralize the acid.
3. Flush your eyes with water for **10—15** minutes. Get medical attention immediately.

If acid is swallowed:

1. Drink large amounts of water or milk.
2. Then drink milk of magnesia, beaten eggs, or vegetable oil.
3. Get medical attention immediately.



Thank you very much  
for your reading.  
Please click here  
to get more information.