## **MULCHING TIPS**

When using a Dixon mower equipped with a Mulching Kit, it may not be possible to hide all of the recycled or mulched clippings all of the time. The following tips will aid in obtaining the best possible mulching results

- 1. Only about 1/3 of the grass blade should be cut, or no more than a total of about 3/4" at any one time. Cutting more gras 1 than this is not recommended. If the grass is too long to satisfactorily mulch, the mower deck may plug and cause the engine to stall.
- 2. When cutting grass taller than the recommended height, you may have to cut the lawn twice to achieve acceptable mulching performance.
- 3. Do not attempt to cut wet grass. Mulching performance will generally be poor under wet grass conditions.
- 4. It is important to maintain a sharp blade throughout the cutting season. Optimal mulching performance cannot be achieved with a dull or nicked blade.
- 5. Keep the underside of the mower deck clean. Remove all grass and dirt buildup from the underside of the pan, baffles, and deflector plates after each use.
- Alternate mowing direction. This will evenly disperse the mulched grass clippings over the lawn for even fertilizatio.

If the mulching quality of the mower does not seem to be satisfactory, try one or more of the following tips:

- 1. Raise the mower's cutting height setting.
- 2. Cut grass more frequently.
- 3. Operate the mower at a slower ground speed.
- 4. Overlap cutting swaths instead of cutting a full swath with each pass.
- 5. Mow across the marginal areas a second time.

To ensure acceptable mulching performance, follow these guidelines:

- The amount of grass that is to be cut off in one pass should not exceed <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of the total grass height Example: If the grass height is 3" the mower deck cutting height should not be set less than 2".
- Ground speed should normally be reduced to allow clippings to be finely mulched.
- 3. Engine RPM should be set at maximum.
- 4. Blades must be kept sharp.
- 5. The underside of deck should be cleaned out often to prevent grass accumulation.
- 6. Conditions must be dry. Wet grass does not mulch well and grass will accumulate under deck.

IMPORTANT: BEFORE PROCEEDING, PLACE ALL CONTROLS IN THE DISENGAGED OR THE OFF POSITION, REMOVE SPARK PLUG WIRES FROM THE SPARK PLUGS.

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