

Safe Operating Procedure

Whipper Snipper - Petrol



PERSONAL SAFETY



PRE OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Make sure equipment is free of any signs of wear or damage;
- Check unit for loose/missing nuts, bolts and screws. Tighten and/or replace as needed;
- Inspect fuel lines, tank, and area around carburettor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found;
- Check guards ensuring they are in working order;
- Operator to inspect work area to ensure that work surface is even and stable to prevent slips, trips and falls;
- Fuel whipper snipper away from any possible sources of ignition;
- Always turn off whipper snipper before replacing line;
- Load the nylon line cutting head only with nylon trimmer line of the proper diameter;
- Do not operate if the line cutter is missing;

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Entanglement;
- Impact and cutting injuries;
- Shearing;
- Manual handling;
- Noise;
- Slips and trips;
- Exhaust fumes.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY PRACTICES (CONTROLS)

- Keep hands and feet away from all moving parts;
- Do not overreach and ensure proper footing and balance;
- Adjust the handle/s to a position for comfort and good balance;
- When starting, ensure the machine is in a clear area so the line or blade cannot contact the ground or any other obstruction;
- The muffler side of the engine should be away from your body to avoid burns;
- Maintain a straight wrist position. Avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisted position for extended periods;
- Always keep both hands on the control handles. Do not operate one-handed;
- Do not raise the line or blade head above knee height;
- Keep machine clear of fences, wires, posts, rocks, etc. to prevent kick out and cutter head damage;
- Ensure moving parts have come to a complete stop before performing any maintenance or cleaning;

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- After shutting down the engine, keep fingers and feet away from the cutting line or blade until all rotation stops;
 - Make sure motor is stopped and allowed to cool before refuelling;
 - Refuel only in a well-ventilated area away from possible ignition sources;
 - Take extreme caution when refuelling to avoid igniting fuel on hot exhaust or engine.

HOUSEKEEPING

- Ensure moving parts have completely stopped before storing;
- Remove any foreign material from engine, cutting tool and guards;
- Ensure equipment is returned to storage area after use.