

[John Deere Sabre 1438 1542 15.538 15.542  
Lawn Tractor Service Repair Manual](#)



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(1 of 161)



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# SABRE LAWN TRACTOR

MODELS:    1438 Gear                      15.542 Automatic  
              1542 Gear                      1642 Gear  
              15.538 Gear                    1642 Automatic  
              15.538 Automatic            1646 Automatic  
              1542 Automatic            1642 Auto V-Twin  
              15.542 Gear                1646 Auto V-Twin



# TECHNICAL MANUAL

John Deere  
Worldwide Commercial and  
Consumer Equipment Division

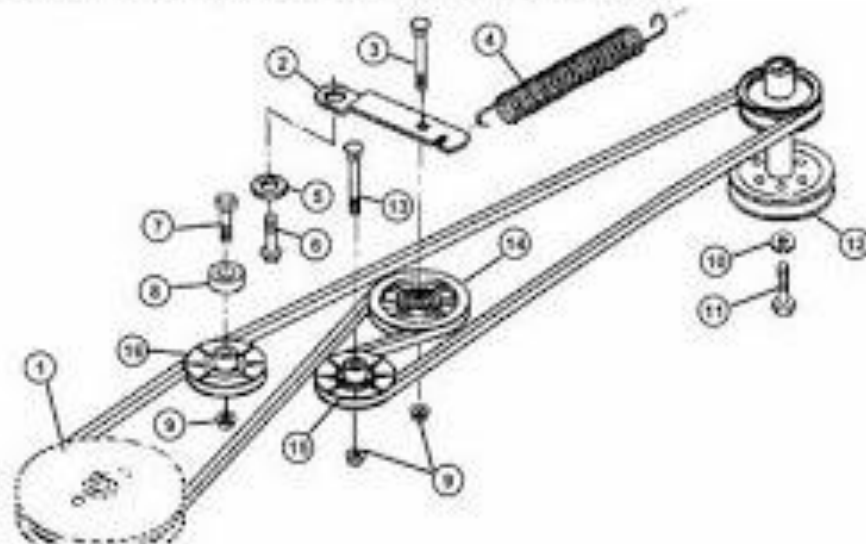
TM-GX10238 (01Apr98)

# John Deere Sabre 1438 1542 15.538 15.542 Lawn Tractor Service Repair Manual

## HYDROSTATIC POWER TRAIN

SPECIFICATIONS

### TRACTION DRIVE SYSTEM COMPONENT LOCATION

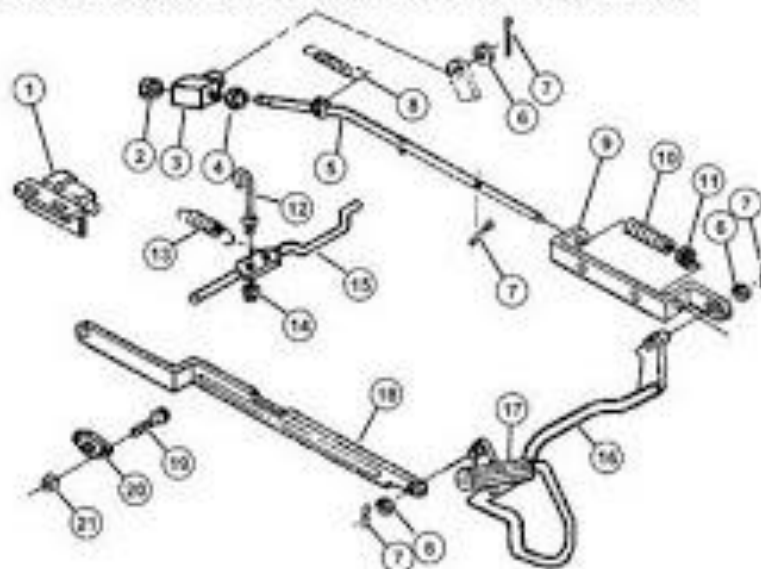


- 1. Transaxle Drive Sheave
- 2. Arm
- 3. Bolt M8 x 45
- 4. Spring
- 5. Bushing

- 6. Cap Screw
- 7. Bolt
- 8. Spacer
- 9. Flange Nut M8
- 10. Lock Washer

- 11. Cap Screw
- 12. Sheave, Engine
- 13. Bolt M8 x 45
- 14. Idler
- 15. Idler
- 16. Idler

### PEDAL LINKAGE ASSEMBLY COMPONENT LOCATION



- 1. Neutral Switch
- 2. Lock Nut, 9.525 mm
- 3. Pivot
- 4. Nut, 3/8 in.
- 5. Rod
- 6. Washer
- 7. Cotter Pin

- 8. Brake Rod Return Spring
- 9. Brake Spring Strap
- 10. Brake Compression Spring
- 11. Washer
- 12. Park Brake Lever
- 13. Extension Spring
- 14. Flange Nut

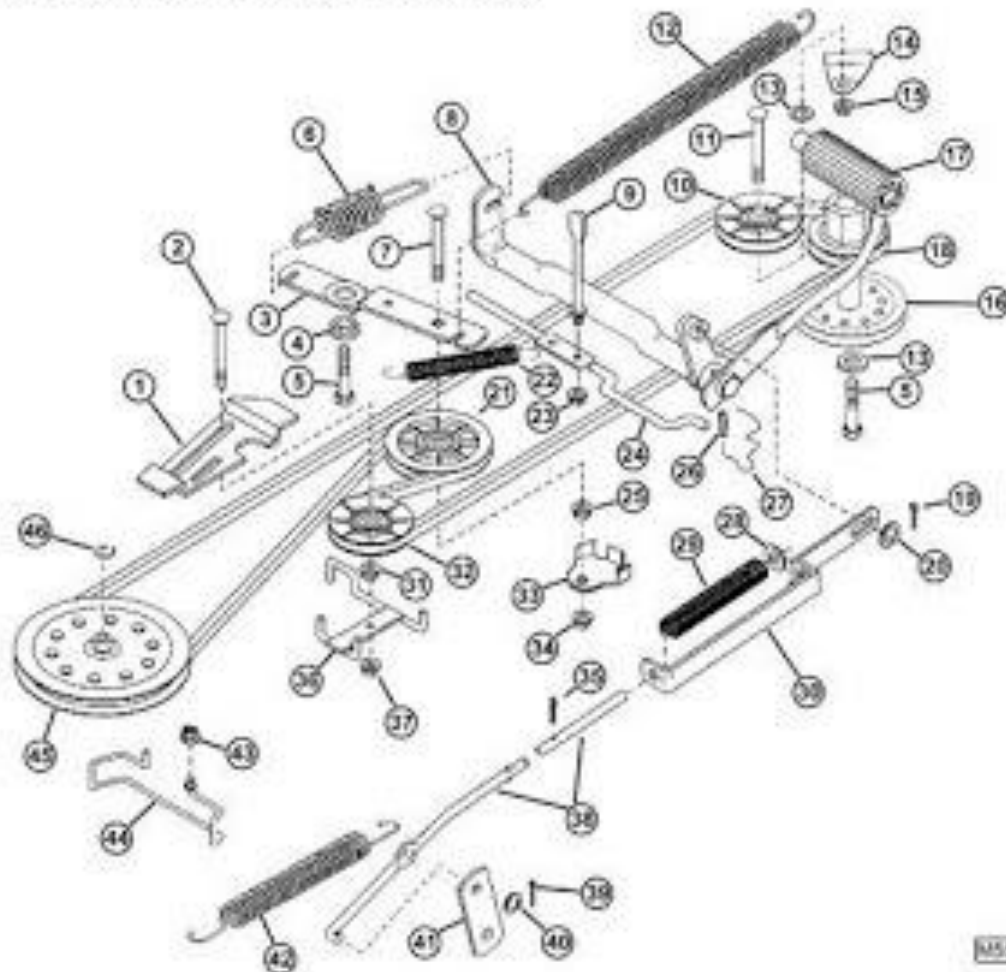
- 15. Rod, Parking Brake
- 16. Shaft, Brake
- 17. Pad
- 18. Strap, Return to Neutral
- 19. Screw, M8x20
- 20. Bracket
- 21. Lock Nut, M8

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GEAR POWER TRAIN

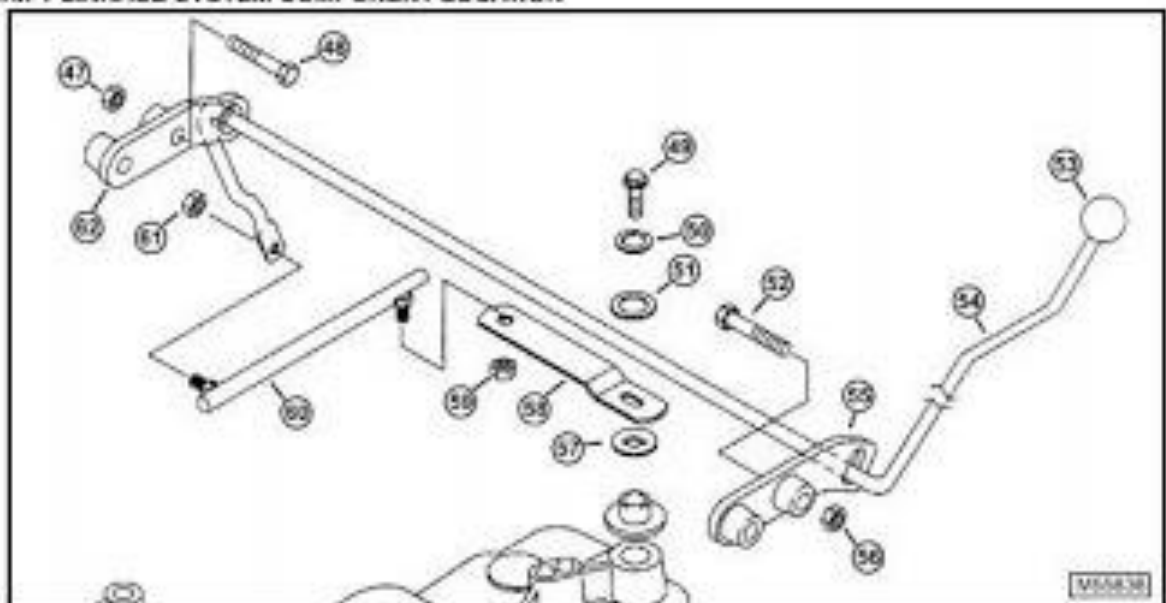
TRACTION DRIVE SYSTEM COMPONENT LOCATION

TRACTION DRIVE SYSTEM COMPONENT LOCATION



M559275

SHIFT LINKAGE SYSTEM COMPONENT LOCATION



M55938

# John Deere Sabre 1438 1542 15.538 15.542

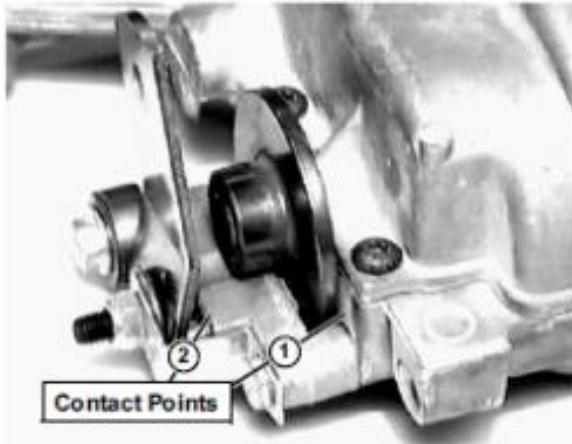
## Lawn Tractor Service Repair Manual

### GEAR POWER TRAIN

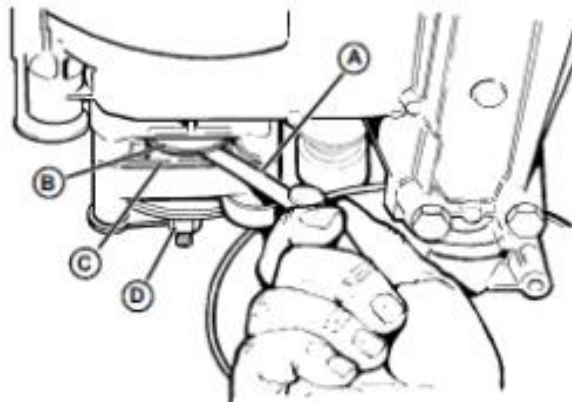
### TESTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

#### BRAKE ADJUSTMENT—

- Before inspecting the brakes, depress the brake/clutch pedal and lock park brake lever into park position.
- Check for brake disc contacting the case and/or brake lever contacting its mounting bracket, top or bottom. If so, replace friction pucks and brake disc before making any adjustments.



1. Place the tractor on a flat surface, block the front and rear wheels, and release the parking brake.



2. From the rear of the tractor, locate the brake disc, lock nut, and friction pucks.
3. Insert a 0.010 in. (0.25 mm) shim gauge (A) between the disc (B) and friction puck (C). The shim should slide with slight interference.

#### If the shim will not fit:

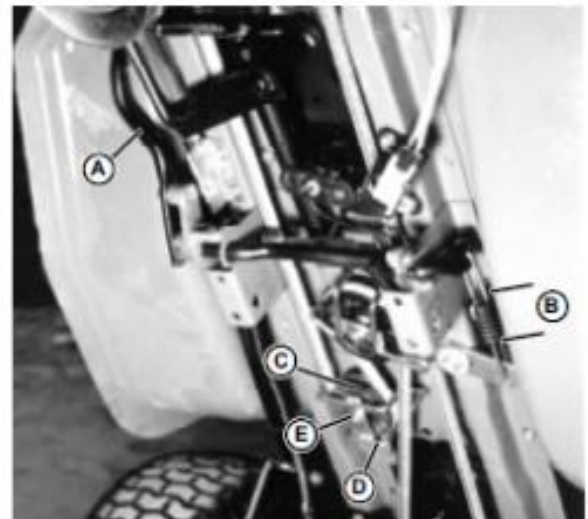
4. Loosen the lock nut (D) until the shim slides in. Tighten the lock nut until the shim has slight interference.
5. Remove the shim and cycle the brake pedal. Readjust if needed.

#### If the shim slides freely:

6. Install the shim and tighten the lock nut until there is slight interference.
7. Remove the shim and cycle the brake pedal. Readjust if needed.
8. If adjustment can not be obtained, inspect brake assembly components, replace as necessary, and repeat all adjustment procedures and drive tests.

#### CLUTCH ACTUATING SPRING ADJUSTMENT

**IMPORTANT:** Anytime the brake or clutch spring need to be adjusted, both must be examined to ensure desired results will be obtained.



1. Unlock park brake and release pedal (A).
2. Measure clutch actuating spring length (B). Measurement should be 42—45 mm (1.65—1.77 in.). Clutch actuating spring length is adjusted by sliding rear idler sheave (C) on its slotted mounting bracket, as follows:
3. Depress brake/clutch pedal (A) and lock park brake.
4. Remove belt guide (D) to access idler sheave mounting nut (E). Loosen mounting nut and adjust idler as follows:
  - If spring length is less than 42 mm (1.65 in.), slide idler rearward.
  - If spring length is greater than 45 mm (1.77 in.), slide idler forward.
5. Tighten idler nut (E).
6. Cycle pedal in and out two or three times measuring clutch spring length each time. Measurement must fall within 42—45 mm (1.65—1.77 in.) each time. If not, continue to adjust rear idler slightly until it does.