

Baler preparation and maintenance

Just a few tips to help your baler season go a little better:

- When hooking up tractor to baler, quick hitches should be removed from tractor as well as lower hitch arms if possible to prevent PTO drive shaft damage
- Also check your owners manual for the correct PTO to drawbar relationship
- You should perform regular inspection, adjustments and lubrication of your baler as well as using air to clean your baler regularly
- After winter storage, the clutch may not slip as designed, so it may need to be slipped by reducing the spring pressure, blocking the drums and slowly engaging the PTO, this will burnish the clutch components and allow it to slip when needed; then reset the clutch springs
- Twine knives and net cutting knives must be removed and sharpened periodically and can be file sharpened; try to maintain original bevel

Power unit inspection and maintenance

A few things to keep in mind this irrigation season to keep your power unit running at optimum power and fuel efficiency are:

- Check your air filters often and keep them clean
- When changing fuel filters don't forget the in-line filter; another overlooked fuel filter is the filter on the bulk tank
- Keep the radiator blown out and check your belts and belt tensioners to keep the cooling system functioning properly
- Keep power unit clutch adjusted properly to prevent costly clutch failures and down time
- Grease, but don't over grease the clutch throw-out bearing
- Check drive line u-joints often and keep greased
- At season startup, test all Murphy safety systems for proper shutdown

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