

Windrower Inspection and Adjustment

Disk header applications

If the header flotation is not set properly; the following conditions may be observed:

- If the header is too light, the header will bounce, creating uneven cut height, poor crop feeding and poor windrow or swath appearance
- If the header is too heavy, the header will not float properly over obstacles causing cutter bed, disc and knife damage, and subsequent cutting and feeding problems

Cutter bed inspection

The cutter bed should be inspected on a regular basis to prevent extensive repairs and down time.

Check components for:

- Knives - damage; broken, bent, missing and loose hardware
- Lifters - damage; bent, cracked and loose or missing hardware
- Discs - damage; bent, cracked and loose or missing hardware
- Disc timing - discs should be tangent to each other (if the discs are not timed properly, it may indicate internal cutter bed damage)

Inspection procedure:

Starting at one end of the cutter bed, try to rock each disc up and down. A small amount of movement, approximately 0.060", is normal.

- If excessive movement is determined, loose disc hub retaining hardware or top cap bearing wear or damage is indicated
- With gloved hands, start at one end of the cutter bed and work down the cutter bed, slowly rotate one disc while holding the adjacent disc against the direction of rotation

Sickle and guard inspection and adjustment

- Guards must be adjusted so the rear of the knife section bears on the rib, and the front of the section lies flat on the ledger surface
- Adjustment is accomplished by applying vertical force to the guard, bending the guard tip to achieve the desired alignment

Knife hold-down clip adjustment

Additional sickle adjustments include knife timing and sickle drive adjustment.

- Dual, counter-stroking knives must be timed so both knives reach the inner end of the stroke at the same time, to minimize vibration and provide the best cutting performance
- Knife drive adjustment is necessary to keep the knife back centered in the guard opening

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