



- 17 **DO NOT** push the machine over gravel, concrete or tarmac with the motor running.
- 18 **DO NOT** pick up and carry the machine with the motor running.
- 19 **DO NOT** leave the motor running when the machine is left unattended.
- 20 After stopping the motor allow time for the cutter blades to stop rotating (if the machine is NOT fitted with an automatic brake).
- 21 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

### **ELECTRIC ROTARY GRASS CUTTERS**

- 22 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The grass cutter will be either 110V or 230V.
- 23 The use of a low voltage machine at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 24 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 25 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 26 **When using a 230V machine the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:**
- Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the chasing machine and its power cable.
  - The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
  - Pass the power cable over the shoulder to keep it clear of the blade and position the rest where it is less likely to be damaged.
  - The motor, cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:
    - CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
    - Make sure that cables are not damaged and free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)
    - CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
    - ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
    - CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or tool. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
    - CHECK** the outer casing of the motor for damage and **CHECK** for loose or missing parts or screws
    - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and machine
    - CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.

- 27 A grass cutter using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 26.(d) above.
- 28 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 29 If the automatic cut-out operates, allow the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 30 **DO NOT** use the machine in damp, wet or flammable conditions.
- 31 **DO NOT** carry the machine with the finger on the operating control.
- 32 **DO NOT** carry the machine by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 33 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the machine.

### **PETROL ROTARY GRASS CUTTERS**

- 34 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 35 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 36 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 37 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 38 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material on the exhaust system. The exhaust and silencer get very hot.
- 39 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.
- 40 When noise levels are uncomfortably high at 85-89 dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 41 At still higher noise levels, when it is necessary to shout to be heard, (90 dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.



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