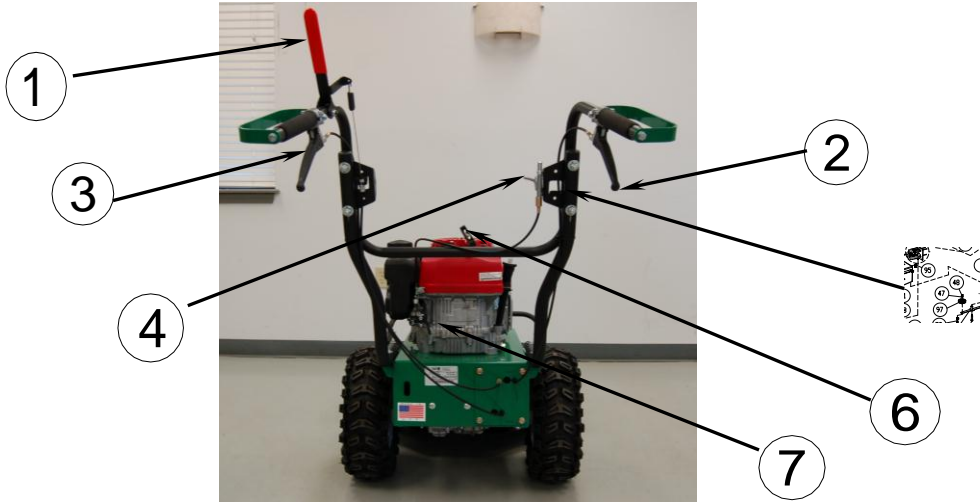




OPERATION

OPERATOR CONTROLS

The operator's station is at the rear of the machine between the handlebars. The operator should STAND in a position to allow both handlebars to be grasped firmly and which allows sufficient leverage to steer the machine. Operator's controls are shown below.



Operator Control Locations

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Blade Clutch Lever | 5 | Start Switch (Electric only) |
| 2 | Forward Lever | 6 | Pull Starter |
| 3 | Reverse Lever | 7 | Choke |
| 4 | Throttle | | |

STARTING



CHECK engine oil level before operating machine.

- Place equipment on a level, firm surface that is free of rocks or other debris.
- Place throttle in Fast position.



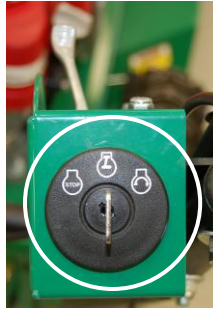
Throttle

- Pull choke out (Honda engine only).



Choke

- Units equipped with electric starters: Turn the switch right until engine starts, only cranking over the engine for 10 sec at a time if it does not immediately start.



Start/Stop switch



WARNING: DO NOT START equipment with drive or blade clutch engaged.

- Units equipped with manual starters: Pull starter rope to start engine.



WARNING: PULL STARTER CORD slowly until resistance is felt. Then pull cord rapidly to avoid kickback.

- Push choke in (Honda engine only).
- Pull throttle control back to and allow engine to reach correct operating speed.

CUTTING

The best performance is achieved when cutting in dry conditions. The quality of the cut is directly related to ground speed during cutting. Under most conditions cutting should be done at a slower ground speed. Fast speeds should be reserved for conditions where weeds and brush are thinned out or not very tall. If the quality of the cut is not satisfactory, attempt at slower speeds.

- Press blade clutch handle down to engage blade. Allow blade to spin up to normal operating speed.



Blade Clutch Lever

2. Pull Forward or Reverse Drive lever up to engage transaxle in desired direction.



Reverse Drive Lever (left hand)



Forward Drive Lever (right hand)

SHUT DOWN

1. Release drive lever to disengage transaxle.
2. Release blade clutch handle to disengage blade.
3. (Non-Electric) Move the throttle to the slowest possible position on the throttle control.
4. (Electric models) Turn the key to the OFF position.

CLEARING A CLOGGED CUTTING DECK



WARNING: **DISCONNECT** spark plug wire before servicing unit.

1. Shut engine off and wait for blade to stop completely.
2. Disconnect spark plug wire.
3. Remove clog from cutting deck.



WEAR durable gloves. Clog may contain sharp materials.

4. Reconnect spark plug wire.