

# Pre-Harvest Checklist



Below is a brief summary of items to consider but does not attempt to cover all the items contained in your equipment manual. A thorough inspection and service job before going to the field will help minimize downtime in the field and better harvesting performance. Contact us if you need any service parts, such as belts, filters and bearings. We provide servicing and repair inspection for combines in our plant, so let us know if you would like for us to check out your machine to see what improvements might boost its performance.

## Important

- Cleaning the diesel fuel is critical to maintaining good performance from fuel injectors.
- Replace the air filter at the beginning of the harvest season, and clean it daily.
- It is recommended that the engine oil and filter be changed at least annually and more often, depending on the engine hours and operating conditions.

## General

- Check all fluid levels before starting the combine the first time of the season. Look for signs of leaks. Use proper replacement fluids if levels are found to be low. In your manual, review the frequency various fluids should be checked during the operation of the combine.
- Clean the combine out before starting it. Even if you cleaned it last season before putting it away, who knows how many families of mice have taken up residence and built condominiums in the shelter of your combine. Check for foreign objects before starting the combine. Making sure the area is clear, start the engine and run at a fast idle for about three minutes. Watch the oil pressure and alternator warning lights. Carefully engage the threshing mechanism. Raise the RPM to a normal level, observing the function of the threshing machinery. Disengage the threshing mechanism. Drive the combine to a suitable open place. Move the gear lever to neutral and engage the parking brake. Stop the engine and remove the key to prevent an unauthorized person from starting it. Do not open or remove guards until the engine is stopped.
- Open all the cleaning doors. Remove the sieve and clean it. Clean the supporting structure for the shaker shoe. Clean the straw walker bottoms. Run the combine threshing machinery for two to three minutes with the cleaning fan at maximum speed, and pushing the direction lever to and fro, lift and lower the cutting table to the ground without starting it, then stop the threshing machinery. Check the grain pan is empty, and clean it if necessary. Check the for grain around the conveyor and chain housing, remove any found. Clean the cutting table. Remove the auger in the bottom of the grain tank and brush out the trough. Clean the unloading pipe by agitating and turning the auger by hand. Replace all of the parts removed properly and close doors.
- Review the Service and Maintenance section of your manual. You will find a list of items to check, lubricate and possibly adjust. The list includes cutting knife, table, belts, chains, cylinder/concave, air conditioning, brakes, filters, electrical controls and some other things.
- Check lights and warning lights for proper operation.

- Set the threshing adjustments for the crop conditions you expect. Guidelines are found in the manual and posted in the cab. This includes the cylinder/concave clearance and cleaning fan settings. You may need to change a sheave, depending on whether you need a very slow or normal cylinder speed.
- Review the proper operation, service and maintenance of the combine with any persons who will be running it.