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OPERATORS MANUAL

SQUARE BALE HUGGER

SBH



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1. INTRODUCTION

With your purchase of the Wifo Square Bale Hugger you have made the right choice for the handling of your wrapped (or unwrapped) square or round bales. Through its unique construction it requires minimal maintenance.

Before using your bale hugger read this manual carefully to familiarize yourself with this machine. Operating unfamiliar machines may lead to accidents.

This Operator's manual has been written to assist you in obtaining the best possible results from your Wifo Square Bale Hugger. Keep it in a safe place so you can always use it as a reference booklet. If any questions should remain, however, you can contact your local dealer who will gladly assist you.

Your bale hugger is designed to fit your front end loader or skid steer and easily adaptable to your quick-tach brackets (plate). You can grab all sizes of square bales and round bales up to 6 feet in diameter from any position for transportation and stacking.

CAUTION: Never use the bale hugger to lift or transport people!!!

2. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Follow all the rules of operation from the operator's manual of your tractor or skid steer.
- Use a tractor with a roll-over protective system (ROPS).
- When using the bale hugger on sloping or uneven terrain, always maintain proper stability. It is therefore advisable to use a wide wheel track setting on your tractor. Also avoid sudden maneuvers and change of direction.
- While moving, make sure you keep the load low and as close to the tractor or skid steer as possible, because a heavy load can easily tip your tractor or skid steer over.
- Have the rear of your tractor or skid steer properly counter balanced with weights to create optimal stability.
- Comply with federal and local laws governing highway safety and movement of farm machinery on public roads.
- Make sure you place the bales on a flat and solid surface so they do not start moving unexpectedly.
- When in use, never stand within operating range of the bale hugger and never under a raised load.
- Strictly operate the bale hugger from your tractor's or skid steer's driver's seat and make sure you have a good view on the job.

- Make sure the hugger's arms can move freely and do not jam any hydraulic hoses.
- Do not confuse your bale hugger's controls with other controls on your tractor or skid steer to avoid unintentional operation.
- Take care! The hydraulic circuit operates under pressure. Make sure that the hydraulic systems of both your bale hugger and tractor or skid steer are de-pressurized before connecting any hoses between the two.
- Clearly label or tag the hydraulic fittings of the tractor or skid steer and bale hugger to avoid incorrect connection, which may lead to invert functions such as raising and lowering.
- Make sure that your hydraulic hoses do not get jammed during operation and never operate the bale grabber with a hydraulic hose that has been pinched.
- Regularly check all hydraulic hoses and replace any worn or damaged ones immediately. When replacing hoses, use only replacements compliant to original technical specifications.
- Take all possible precautions to avoid accidents when searching for hydraulic leaks.
- Remember that liquids under pressure, and especially oil, can penetrate the skin and cause serious injury. Consult a doctor immediately to prevent infection in case of injury.
- Before dismounting from your tractor or skid steer, always check if the bale hugger is lowered to the ground, the tractor or skid steer is in neutral and the parking brake applied. And always place your bale hugger on a flat and solid surface for storage.

3. TECHNICAL DETAILS AND OPERATION

3.1 Picture with part specification



- 1. grab arm
- 2. tie-rods 2 x 24" cylinder
- 3. hose assembly
- 4. main frame
- 5. step-through safety guard
- 6. 1" pin

3.2 ASSEMBLY AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Because the Bale Hugger is a loading/stacking device, make sure that it is assembled by a qualified mechanic.

You pick up a square or round bale as follows:

- You drive up to the bale with your frame straight up and the grabbers as far apart as possible;
- Make sure the centre of the frame touches the bale and the grabbers are on each side;
- When positioned correctly, you can operate the cylinders so the grabber will close and pick up the bale.

If you have to transport a bale before loading or stacking, make sure to keep it as low to the ground as possible to ensure the best stability. Especially on rough or uneven terrain or slopes make sure to maintain stability by using counter balance weights or a wide wheel setting on your tractor or skid steer.

Bales should be placed on a flat and solid surface to prevent them from moving/rolling and any bystanders should keep a safe distance from the machine.

If your bale grabber is equipped with a red tie-rods cylinder it is rated at 2500 PSI max. Or if it is equipped with a black welded cylinder it is rated at 3000 PSI max.

4. MAINTENANCE

Little maintenance is required for the Wifo Square Bale Hugger, but the following must be strictly followed.

Make sure that the square tubing of the grab arms is greased regularly.

Tightness of bolts and nuts and the wear on all hydraulic components must be checked periodically. Any worn parts have to be replaced immediately.

In case you have to replace a part, make sure that it is a genuine Wifo part which can be obtained through your dealer.

5. WARRANTY

Warranty is at the sole discretion of the manufacturer. Your Wifo Bale Hugger has a one year warranty from the date of purchase to the original owner. It is limited to material and/or construction failures that have to be examined by the factory. So, if within one year from the date of purchase your bale hugger fails due to a defect in material or workmanship, you will have to return it prepaid to the factory for inspection.

The warranty does not apply to damage received during transport.

And as our policy is one of continuous improvement, we reserve the right to change specifications and prices or modify design, without notice or obligation.