Safe Work Procedure – Brush Cutter/Line Trimmer (Petrol)

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DO NOT use this equipment unless you are authorised to use it and, have been instructed in its safe use and operation











POTENTIAL HAZARDS:

Include the blade can push, pull or kick out, noise, ejected materials, entanglement.

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Check unit for loose/missing nuts, bolts and screws. Tighten and/or replace as needed.
- Inspect fuel lines, tank, and area around carburetor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found.
- Ensure that all guards are fitted, secure and functional.
- Ensure the blade unit has a debris shield, has either a bar handle or a U-handle, and is suspended from a shoulder harness.
- Select the correct cutting tool for the task to be undertaken refer to manufacturer's specification.
- Load the nylon line cutting head only with nylon trimmer line of the proper diameter.
- Do not operate if the line cutter is missing.
- Before operating unit, thoroughly inspect blades for damage and cracks.
- When operating the unit with a blade, ensure the blade is attached to the unit as designed, such as with a locknut and cotter
 pin, and with the teeth pointing in the direction the blade head rotates.
- Faulty equipment must not be used. Report suspect machinery immediately.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY

- Watch especially for ejected material and ensure that no person or animal is endangered when operating.
- Adjust the handle/s to a position for comfort and good balance.
- When starting, ensure the machine is in a clear area so the line or blade cannot contact the ground or any other obstruction.
- The muffler side of the engine should be away from your body to avoid burns.
- Maintain footing and balance at all times. Do not work on slippery, uneven or unstable surfaces.
- Maintain a straight wrist position Avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisted position for extended periods.
- Always keep both hands on the control handles. Do not operate one-handed.
- Do not raise the line or blade head above knee height.
- Keep machine clear of fences, wires, posts, rocks, etc. to prevent kick out and cutter head damage.
- Shut down immediately if the unit starts to shake or vibrate.
- After shutting down the engine, keep fingers and feet away from the cutting line or blade until all rotation stops.
- Disconnect spark plug wire before you work on the unit or leave it unattended.
- Take extreme caution when refuelling to avoid igniting fuel on hot exhaust or engine.

POST-OPERATION:

- Remove any foreign material from engine, cutting tool and guards.
- Keep the work area and implement shed in a clean and tidy condition.

